

IN THE

# Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1977

No. 77-154

WILSON H. ELKINS, President, University of Maryland,

Petitioner,

V.

JUAN CARLOS MORENO, ET AL.,

Respondents.

#### PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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#### PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

Petitioner, Wilson H. Elkins, President of the University of Maryland, prays that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit entered in this case on April 28, 1977.

#### OPINIONS BELOW

The per curiam opinion of the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, not yet reported, appears in the Appendix to this Petition (A. 54a). The order denying rehearing en banc, entered May 23, 1977, is also unreported and likewise appears in the Appendix (A. 55a). The opinion and order of the United States District Court that resulted in the appeal to the Court of Appeals was entered on July 13, 1976, in Moreno v.

University of Maryland, 420 F. Supp. 541 (D. Md. 1976), and also appears in the Appendix (A. 8a).

#### JURISDICTION

The judgment of the Court of Appeals was entered on April 28, 1977. Within the time prescribed by Rule 40 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, Petitioner filed a petition for rehearing and suggestion for rehearing en banc. That petition was denied by the Court of Appeals on May 23, 1977. This petition for certiorari is being filed within the 90 day period provided by 28 U.S.C. § 2101 and Rule 22 of the Supreme Court. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 38 U.S.C. § 1254(1).

#### QUESTION PRESENTED

Whether the decisions below should have applied Supreme Court precedents on irrebuttable presumptions, disregarded the principles articulated in Weinberger v. Salfi, 422 U.S. 749 (1975), and erroneously concluded that the University of Maryland's policy of denying in-state status for tuition and fee purposes to non-immigrants holding G-4 visas establishes an irrebuttable presumption violative of the due process clause of the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution?

#### CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

Constitution of the United States

#### Amendment XIV, § 1

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

#### **United States Code**

#### Title 8, § 1101(a)(15)(G)(i) and (iv)

The term "immigrant" means every alien except an alien who is within one of the following classes of non-immigrant aliens—

(G) (i) a designated principal resident representative of a foreign government recognized de jure by the United States, which foreign government is a member of an international organization entitled to enjoy privileges, exemptions, and immunities as an international organization under the International Organizations Immunities Act (59 Stat. 669), accredited resident members of the staff of such representatives, and members of his or their immediate family;

(iv) officers, or employees of such international organizations, and the members of their immediate families;

#### Title 8, § 1184(a)

(a) The admission to the United States of any alien as a nonimmigrant shall be for such time and under such conditions as the Attorney General may by regulations prescribe, including when he deems necessary the giving of a bond with sufficient surety in such sum and containing such conditions as the Attorney General shall prescribe, to insure that at the expiration of such time or upon failure to maintain the status under which he was admitted, or to maintain any status subsequently acquired under section 248 [§ 1258 of this title], such alien will depart from the United States.

#### Title 8, § 1202(c)

(c) Every alien applying for a nonimmigrant visa and for alien registration shall make application therefor in such form and manner as shall be by regulations prescribed. In the application the alien shall state his full and true name, the date and place of birth, his nationality, the purpose and length of his intended stay in the United States; personal description (including height, complexion, color of hair and eyes, and marks of identification); his marital status; and such additional information necessary to the identification of the applicant and the enforcement of the immigration and nationality laws as may be by regulations prescribed.

#### Code of Federal Regulations

Title 8, § 214.1

This appears in the Appendix (A. 5a).

University of Maryland In-State Policy with Respect to Tuition and Fee Differentials—

This also appears in the Appendix (A. 1a).

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Following the decision of this Court in Vlandis v. Kline, 412 U.S. 441 (1973), the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland adopted a new policy for the classification of students as "in-state" or "out-of-state" for purposes of determining admission, tuition rates, and charge differentials. Like most other public institutions of higher education, the University of Maryland bases its award of in-state status on domicile.

Because it views non-immigrant aliens as being under a legal disability which precludes the intent to be domiciled in Maryland, the University considers for instate status only "United States citizens and ... immigrant aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in accordance with the laws of the United States." Even these individuals do not automatically

qualify for the preferential, in-state tuition and charge differential rates. The in-state policy describes eight non-exclusive indicia of domicile which are used to assist the University in determining a student's status.1 (If the student himself is financially dependent on a parent, the University looks to the status of the parent rather than of the student in making the determination.) For students who are not United States citizens or permanent resident aliens (or are the dependent children of financially responsible parents holding similar non-immigrant status), the University does not further examine other domiciliary factors. This is because such individuals cannot have the requisite legal intent to establish Maryland domicile.2 However. the University recognizes that aliens who are permanent resident aliens can establish domiciliary intent for in-state purposes. Thus, permanent resident aliens can and do qualify for the preferential rates on the same bases as United States citizens. The in-state policy denies preferential rates to both citizens who are not Maryland domiciliaries and to non-immigrants who, by definition, are not Maryland domiciliaries; it benefits citizens who are domiciled in Maryland, as well as permanent resident aliens who are Maryland domiciliaries. Thus, it is not directed at aliens per se and nondomiciliaries, not aliens, are the only class disadvantaged by the policy. Compare Nyquist v. Mauclet. \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_\_, 45 U.S.L.W. 4655 (June 13, 1977).

Among the domiciliary criteria set out in the University's in-state policy are: presence, possession of personal and real property, motor vehicle registration, driver's license, voting, and income tax payments (A. 3a-4a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The in-state policy defines domicile as follows:

<sup>&</sup>quot;A domicile is a person's permanent place of abode; namely, there must be demonstrated an intention to live permanently or indefinitely in Maryland. For purposes of this policy only one domicile may be maintained at a given time . . ." (A. 3a).

Even non-immigrant students are not forever precluded by the University policy from qualifying for instate status. A financially responsible parent who adjusts his status from non-immigrant to that of permanent resident aliens is no longer disabled from exhibiting the necessary domiciliary indicia. The same is true of a non-immigrant student who becomes financially independent for twelve months and who, like one of the Respondents (Juan Otero), adjusts his status to that of a permanent resident alien. Moreover, the University's three-step appellate process is available to such individuals both with respect to the effect of change in their immigration status and, subsequently, exhibition of domiciliary indicia.

On May 27, 1975, Respondents, undergraduate students at the University of Maryland, brought suit for declaratory and injunctive relief in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland against the University and its President, Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, alleging jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1343(3) and (4). These financially dependent students were non-immigrant aliens who held G-4 visas,<sup>3</sup> as did their

<sup>3</sup> A "G-4 alien" is one class of non-immigrants; it consists of aliens who are "officers, or employees of . . . international organizations . . . and the members of their immediate families." 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(G)(iv). A G-4 non-immigrant is admitted to the United States "for such time and under such conditions as the Attorney General may be regulations prescribe." 8 U.S.C. § 1184(a).

Pursuant to the regulations for the admission of nonimmigrant aliens into the United States, a non-immigrant such as the holder of a G-4 visa must agree "that he will abide by all the terms of and conditions of his admission or extension and that he will depart at the expiration of the period of his admission or extension or on abandonment of his authorized non-immigrant status." 8 C.F.R. § 214.1. In addition, an alien applying for a non-immigrant visa must state under oath on his application "the purpose and length of his intended stay in the United States." 8 U.S.C. § 1202(c). Thus, entitlement to G-4 non-immigrant status by a person

and his family is derived from the circumstances of that

fathers, who were employed by certain international organizations based in Washington, D.C., viz., the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). In particular, the students challegned, as violative of the due process and equal protection clauses of the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, the University's policy of denying in-state status for tuition and charge differential purposes to holders of G-4 visas or those who are financially dependent on persons holding such non-immigrant status.

Following a hearing on April 9, 1976, the district court, on July 13, 1976, held that the University's instate policy as applied to G-4 aliens created an impermissible irrebuttable presumption in violation of the due process clause of the fourteenth amendment. The court said that by the use of a presumption of non-domicile for G-4 aliens, the University denied Respondents the opportunity to demonstrate that they were entitled to in-state status for purposes of tuition and charge differentials. Relying on Vlandis v. Kline, supra; Stanley v. Illinois, 405 U.S. 645 (1972); and Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFleur, 414 U.S. 632 (1974), the court held that this irrebuttable presumption of non-domicile, because it was not (according to the court) universally true and because the University had a

alien's employment with an international organization, and such status with its attendant permission to remain in the United States would terminate at any time that the employment with an international organization ceases.

Under federal law, employees of the IDB and the World Bank who hold G-4 visas are the beneficiaries of various privileges and immunities, including exemption from federal and state income tax levies. Articles of Agreement of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, 60 Stat. 1440, T.I.A.S. No. 502; Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank, 10 U.S.T. 3029, T.I.A.S. No. 4397; 22 U.S.C. § 288(d); 26 U.S.C. § 893(a).

reasonable alternative means of making a domicile determination for holders of G-4 visas (viz., the appeals process), could not be justified on the basis of cost equalization or administrative convenience. Ignored by the court was any discussion of or reference to Weinberger v. Salfi, 422 U.S. 749 (1975), which cut back sharply on the application of the cited cases:4 nor did the court attempt to apply the principles of Salfi or to distinguish the present case from Vlandis. Because the district court decided the case on due process grounds, it did not rule on the students' equal protection or supremacy clause claims. The court enjoined the University's President (the University itself was dismissed as a party) from denying Respondents and members of their class in-state status "solely because they or their parents" hold G-4 visas.5

On July 31, 1976, an appeal was noted. Before the Fourth Circuit, Petitioner contended that the principles of Salfi and subsequent "irrebuttable presumption" decisions of this Court warranted reversal. Nevertheless, in a per curiam opinion, dated April 28, 1977, the Fourth Circuit affirmed the district court, eschewed any discussion of or reference to Salfi and its progeny, and in effect adopted the opinion of the district court. A timely petition for rehearing by the full court was filed, and denied on May 23, 1977. On May 26, 1977, upon Petitioner's motion, the Fourth Circuit stayed its mandate pending application to this Court for a writ of certiorari (A. 56a).

#### REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

I.

THE TREATMENT BELOW OF THE IRREBUTTABLE PRE-SUMPTION QUESTION RAISED IN THIS CASE IS PATENTLY AT ODDS WITH A SERIES OF DECISIONS BY THIS COURT AND SHARPLY CONFLICTS WITH DECISIONS OF OTHER CIRCUITS.

Petitioner submits that the opinion filed by the Court of Appeals, as well as the district court view it adopts on the irrebuttable presumption doctrine, is flatly contradicted by what is fast becoming a long line of decisions by this Court and conflicts with conclusions reached in at least three other circuits.

The decisions below hold that decisions of this Court mandate that every irrebuttable presumption not universally true in fact is unconstitutional (A. 41a). Applying this now discredited principle (see Weinberger v. Salfi, 422 U.S. 749, 781 (1975); The Supreme Court, 1974 Term, 89 Harv. L. Rev. 47, 78 (1975)), the district court opinion adopted by the Fourth Circuit concluded that neither the Maryland law of domicile nor United States immigration law precluded a G-4 alien from acquiring a state domicile. Hence, according to its reasoning, the University, although perhaps correct in its interpretation of the law of domicile with respect to other categories of non-immigrants, had adopted a not universally true or invalid measure of domicile with respect to G-4's. In arriving at this conclusion, the opinion relied on three cases to support its view that the application of the University's in-state policy to G-4 aliens created an unconstitutional irrebuttable presumption: Vlandis v. Kline, 412 U.S. 441 (1973); Stanley v. Illinois, 405 U.S. 645 (1972); and Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFleur, 414 U.S. 632 (1974).

In Vlandis, in a deeply split decision, this Court held that a "permanent" irrebuttable presumption of nonresidence was created by a Connecticut policy which

<sup>4</sup> Neither party called the case to the attention of the district court.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> On August 3, 1976, in response to Petitioner's motion, the district court stayed those portions of its final order which granted declatory and injunctive relief (A. 52a).

established that an out-of-state applicant for admission to a public college could not adjust to in-state status for the entire period of his attendance at the school, when that presumption was not universally true in fact. The Vlandis opinion carefully distinguished prior cases relating to in-state/out-of-state tuition differentials, most particularly, Starns v. Malkerson, 326 F. Supp. 234 (D. Minn. 1970), aff'd. 401 U.S. 985 (1971). Starns upheld Minnesota's requirement that no student is eligible for in-state status for tuition purposes unless he has been a bona fide domiciliary of the state for at least one year. The Vlandis court noted that under this scheme the presumption of non-residency was temporary and that the student could rebut it after having lived in the state one year, by presenting other sufficient evidence to show bona fide domicile within the state, 412 U.S. at 452. In Stanley, this Court struck down an administrative presumption that an unwed father was unfit to have custody of his children, and in LaFleur it held that a Board of Education rule presuming maternal incapacity for a set period during pregnancy and after childbirth created an unconstitutionally impermissible irrebuttable presumption.

Just as many lower courts did up to 1975,6 the lower courts in the instant case read these three cases to stand for the proposition that any legislative or administrative classification that could be stated in the form of a presumption was unconstitutional if the presumption was not universally or necessarily true. Under such a rule, the lower courts felt under no constraint to limit *Vlandis* to its facts, to recognize that the presumption at issue in this case was not "permanent" like the one condemned in *Vlandis*, or to distin-

guish LaFleur or Stanley as involving classifications affecting fundamental rights.

Even at its zenith the irrebuttable presumption doctrine was never able to command more than a fragile majority of this Court's justices and met with the near universal condemnation of commentators who contended that the doctrine was merely an excuse to apply "strict scrutiny" equal protection analysis.

Finally, in 1975, in Weinberger v. Salfi, supra, this Court sharply and properly curtailed the application of the irrebuttable presumption doctrine. Salfi involved a challenge to a Social Security Act provision which limited eligibility for survivors' benefits to persons whose relationship with the insured began at least nine months before his death. The plaintiffs contended that the nine-month duration-of-relationship requirement created an impermissible irrebuttable presumption that short-lived marriages were a sham aimed at obtaining benefits and that the plaintiffs should be given an opportunity to demonstrate the bona fide nature of their relationship with the insured. The trial court, like the lower court in the present case, felt it was unnecessary to demonstrate how Vlandis, LaFleur, and Stanley applied to the challenged statute. Instead, the district court in Salfi merely asserted that these decisions mandated the invalidation of every legislative presumption that was not universally or necessarily true in fact. Salfi v. Weinberger, supra; 89 Harv. L. Rev. at 78 n.16.

However, on appeal, this Court rejected such a superficial analysis. Stanley and LaFleur were distinguished on the grounds that they involved basic civil

See, e.g., Salfi v. Weinberger, 373 F. Supp. 961, 965 (N.D. Cal. 1974), rev'd, 422 U.S. 749 (1975); Hein v. Burns, 402 F. Supp. 398 (S.D. Iowa 1975), rev'd, 50 L. Ed. 2d 485 (1977).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Note, The Irrebuttable Presumption Doctrine in the Supreme Court, 87 Harv. L. Rev. 1534 (1974); Note, The Conclusive Presumption Doctrine: Equal Process or Due Protection?, 72 Mich. L. Rev. 800 (1974); Note, Irrebuttable Presumptions: An Illusory Analysis, 27 Stan. L. Rev. 449 (1975).

rights and due process liberties, such as the right to raise one's children and the right to personal choice in matters of marriage and family life. 422 U.S. 771.8 Rather than relying on anything said in *Vlandis*, the Court based its decision on *Starns*:

"As in Starns v. Malkerson, . . . the benefits here are available upon compliance with an objective criterion, one which the Legislature considered to bear a sufficiently close nexus with underlying policy objectives to be used as the test for eligibility. Like the plaintiffs in Starns, appellees are completely free to present evidence that they meet the specified requirements; failing in this effort, their only constitutional claim is that the test they cannot meet is not so rationally related to a legitimate legislative objective that it can be used to deprive them of benefits available to those who do satisfy that test." Id. at 772 (citation omitted).

Most significantly, the fact that the "presumption" at issue was not universally true did not aid the plaintiffs' case:

"[U]ndoubtedly [the statute] excludes some surviving wives who married with no anticipation of shortly becoming widows, and it may be that appellee Salfi is among them . . . .

"While it is possible to debate the wisdom of excluding legitimate claimants in order to discourage sham arrangements, we think it clear that Congress could rationally choose to adopt such a course." *Id.* at 781.

Finally, sounding the death knell for any expansion of the irrebuttable presumption doctrine, this Court said:

"We think that the District Court's extension of the holdings of Stanley, Vlandis and LaFleur to the eligibility requirement in issue here would turn the doctrine of those cases into a virtual engine of destruction for countless legislative judgments which have heretofore been thought wholly consistent with the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution." *Id.* at 772.

And Salfi was just the beginning of what is now a long line of this Court's cases that refuse to apply Vlandis and its progeny, or reverse decisions which applied the doctrine in the fashion of the district court opinion adopted by the Fourth Circuit here.

In Usery v. Turner Elkhorn Mining Co., 428 U.S. 1 (1976), this Court overturned the decision of a three-judge federal court that Vlandis and Stanley mandated the unconstitutionality of a statutory irrebuttable presumption of total disability for miners due to black lung disease based on clinical evidence of a complicated stage of the disease. In so doing, the Court relied on Salfi and noted that the mere fact that the statute was phrased in terms of an irrebuttable presumption would not invalidate the statute "when its operation and effect are completely permissible." 49 L. Ed. 2d at 771.

In Knebel v. Hein, U.S., 50 L. Ed. 2d 485 (1977), the Court overturned a three-judge court's determination that a federal food stamp regulation that disallowed a deduction for transportation expenses in connection with job training for purposes of computing a recipient's income was unconstitutional as violative of the irrebuttable presumption doctrine. Although the Court noted that "the District Court was correct that the regulations operate somewhat unfairly in appellee's case," it stated that they did not embody an irrebuttable presumption. 50 L. Ed. 2d at 491.

<sup>8</sup> In Turner v. Department of Employment Security, U.S. , 46 L. Ed. 2d 181 (1975), a case decided after Salfi, this Court in a per curiam opinion struck down a Utah largereating a presumption of maternal incapacity "virtually identical to the presumption found unconstitutional" in LaFleur. However, the Court was careful to adopt the limitations on the irrebuttable presumption doctrine set out in Salfi. ("The Fourteenth Amendment requires that ... [states] must achieve legitimate state ends through more individualized means when basic human liberties are at stake." 46 L. Ed. 2d at 184 (emphasis added).

In Skafte v. Rorex, 553 P.2d 830 (Colo. 1976), appeal dismissed for want of substantial federal question, U.S. , 52 L. Ed. 2d 352 (1977), the Court summarily disposed of a resident alien's contention that a state ban against voting by aliens created an irrebuttable presumption.

And in Fiallo v. Bell, U.S., 52 L. Ed. 2d 50 (1977) the Court rejected an irrebuttable presumption challenge to a federal statute that granted preferential immigration status to unwed fathers and their illegitimate offspring who were permanent resident aliens but not to non-immigrants, despite the obvious fact that the challenged classification, like those at issue in Stanley and LaFleur, affected fundamental freedoms of choice in matters of marriage and family life.

Other circuit courts of appeals were quick to perceive that the irrebuttable presumption doctrine was on the descendancy. In Mogle v. Seiver County School Dist., 540 F.2d 478 (10th Cir. 1976), cert. denied, U.S. 51 L. Ed. 2d 572 (1977), the Tenth Circuit, in reliance upon Salfi, held that in a case challenging a residency requirement for teachers, "we do not feel the conclusive presumption doctrine was intended to apply. The Supreme Court has disapproved extention of the doctrine which would make it destructive of numerous legislative judgments drawing lines." 540 F. 2d at 485. In Sellers v. Ciccone, 530 F.2d 199 (8th Cir. 1976), the Eighth Circuit upheld the exclusion of long-term inmates from prison training programs, primarily on the basis of Salfi. 530 F.2d at 202. And in Fisher v. Secretary of HEW, 522 F.2d 493 (7th Cir. 1975), the Seventh Circuit upheld the validity of Social Security Act presumptions with respect to coverage of domestic servants, stating:

"As noted by Mr. Justice Rehnquist in his dissent in *LaFleur*, almost any law could be in some sense characterized as an irrebuttable pre-

sumption. In the normal case, well established standards of equal protection and due process should be applied to determine the validity of a Congressional enactment. It is only an unusual case where a statute will be declared invalid because of an improper irrebuttable presumption, and the same result would not be reached applying normal equal protection and due process standards." Id. at 504

This wealth of authority was ignored by the Fourth Circuit.9

Petitioner does not contend that the irrebuttable presumption doctrine has been officially overruled; nor does it ask the Court to do so at the present time, unless the Court deems it appropriate to a decision in favor of Petitioner in this case. 10 He argues principally that this is not the "unusual case" warranting the rigid and mechanistic application of the doctrine.

Basic human liberties and fundamental constitutional rights are not at stake in this case. Public education is not a right secured by the United States Constitution. San Antonio Independent School District v. Rodriguez, 411 U.S. 1 (1973); Starns v. Malkerson, supra at 238. And state regulation of entitlement to education falls in the category of the social welfare legislation reviewed in Salfi. Thus, contrary to the holding of the lower courts, LaFleur and Stanley have no application here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Third Circuit has joined the Fourth Circuit in perpetuating a faulty analysis of irrebuttable presumptions. In Gurmankin v. Costanzo, 45 U.S.L.W. 2526 (3d Cir., Apr. 25, 1977), it applied LaFleur to a case where no "constitutional right was involved" and rejected Salfi as applying only in government benefit cases.

This Court may very well conclude that under Salfi and its progeny the irrebuttable presumption doctrine no longer has any force except, perhaps, where a classification affecting fundamental constitutional rights is involved.

Secondly, the classification at issue in this case, even assuming it is regarded as a presumption, does not fall within the prohibitions of Vlandis, because it is not permanent. Unlike the students in Vlandis, who could never qualify for in-state status, Respondents in this case do have the opportunity to qualify. If their parents alter their status to that of a permanent resident alien or if the students similarly alter their status and become financially independent, Respondents will be able to qualify for in-state status on the same basis as all other persons who may be domiciled in Maryland. Like the plaintiffs in Starns, who after one year of disability could present evidence of domiciliary intent, the students in this case, after they or their parents alter their immigration status to that of permanent resident alien, can present evidence of domiciliary intent necessary to qualify for in-state status. Nor can it be said that the University's in-state policy speaks in terms of domicile but signifies otherwise in the case on non-immigrants — no more than Minnesota's policy in Starns of establishing a one-year restriction on demonstrating domicile can be said to be an unconstitutional "invalid measure of domicile" because a respectable body of law holds that physical presence for a moment in a particular place may be enough to establish domicile. See White v. Tennant, 31 W. Va. 790, 8 S.E. 596 (1888); Winans v. Winans, 205 Mass. 388, 91 N.E. 394 (1910); M. Jacobs, Law of Domicile, § 134 (1887). However, even if Respondents in this case may in fact be Maryland domiciliaries, like the out-of-state students in tarns who may have been domiciliaries before the lapse of one year or the widow in Salfi who may have entered into a bona fide marriage without regard to obtaining Social Security benefits, it is clear that Salfi does not require that the allegedly prosumed fact be true in every case.

Thirdly, the interests asserted by Petitioner in support of the challenged in-state policy are entirely sufficient in light of the mere rational basis required by Salfi. The line drawn by the University between permanent resident aliens and non-immigrants is identical to that sustained by this Court in Matthews v. Diaz. 426 U.S. 67 (1976). In Diaz, the Court upheld a scheme which denied Medicare benefits to nonimmigrants, but offered them to citizens and permanent resident aliens (the very same class potentially benefited in the instant case) on the rational basis that the amount of Medicare benefits was not limitless and that Congress could draw the line at citizens and permanent resident aliens because as a class they could be expected to have a greater affinity to the United States. Lest this case be distinguished as one involving the federal government's plenary control over aliens, the Court in Diaz noted that the only reason state exclusion of some aliens from benefits could not be justified is because the states invariably treated out-of-staters and aliens differently. Such a defect is not present in the University's in-state policy. Both out-of-staters and nonimmigrants are denied in-state status. For these same reasons, Nyquist v. Mauclet, U.S. , 45 U.S.L.W. 4656 (June 13, 1977), is inapplicable. There, a five-Justice majority of this Court applied a strict scrutiny equal protection analysis to strike down a state educational benefits scheme which denied assistance to permanent resident aliens. In so doing, the majority of the Court noted that the statute was "directed at aliens and . . . only aliens are harmed by it." 45 U.S.L.W. at 4657. On the contrary, the University's in-state policy benefits the precise class disadvantaged in Mauclet and is directed at and disadvantages only non-domiciliaries, a class which includes some United States citizens as well as some aliens.

The limitation of governmental expenditures to those with a greater affinity, a theory which supported the classifications at issue in *Diaz* and *Starns*, was the primary rationale proffered by the University in support of its in-state policy. In *Diaz*, this Court noted the reasonableness of the presumption said to be at issue here, the difficulty of line-drawing for purposes of entitlement to government benefits, and the obvious fact that "some persons who have an almost equally strong claim to favored treatment" are placed on different sides of the line. 426 U.S. at 83. Citing *Salfi* and *Dandridge v. Williams*, 397 U.S. 471 (1970), this Court said, "When this kind of policy choice must be made, we are especially reluctant to question the exercise of Congressional judgment." 426 U.S. at 84. It is this kind of rational judgment which the lower courts struck down in the present case.

As further justification for the challenged feature of the in-state policy, Petitioner points to the administrative difficulties attendant to affording full blown hearings on domiciliary indicia (many with interpreters) to non-immigrants, 11 and the prevention of disparate treatment among classes of non-immigrants. See Knebel v. Hein, supra, 50 L. Ed. at 492. 12

In summary, Petitioner contends that the decisions below improperly permitted the irrebuttable presumption doctrine to become an "engine of destruction" for a rationally based classification, Weinberger v. Salfi, supra at 772, that the lower courts should never have required the challenged feature of the University's instate policy to be "universally true in fact," and that review by this Court is necessary because the lower court decisions sharply conflict with opinions of this Court and of other courts of appeals.

#### II.

THE DECISIONS BELOW CAST A CLOUD ON THE TUITION AND FEE POLICIES FOLLOWED BY MOST PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THE ERRONEOUS INTERPRETATION OF UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION LAWS BY THE LOWER COURTS MAY SERIOUSLY IMPACT ON LEGITIMATE AREAS OF FEDERAL CONCERN SUCH AS FEDERAL ESTATE TAX LAW.

The dividing line adopted by the University of Maryland in its in-state tuition and fee policy between permanent resident aliens and non-immigrants is one adopted by most public colleges and universities in the United States. Most of these schools, like Maryland, have conlcuded that non-immigrants, who have decided not to become permanent resident aliens, are legally precluded from acquiring a domicile in their respective jurisdictions. Moreover, this seemingly rational conclusion was echoed by this Court in Nyquist v. Mauclet, supra, when it noted:

"Since many aliens, such as those here on student visas, may be precluded by federal law

Of course, the University has afforded hearings to nonimmigrants on the "objective criterion," Weinberger v. Salfi, 422 U.S. at 772, of whether or not they have adjusted their status to permanent resident alien.

<sup>12</sup> Respondents below argued that of all the categories of non-immigrants, G-4's alone were not legally precluded from establishing a Maryland domicile. To recognize such a position and elevate it to constitutional dimensions, would mean that perhaps the wealthiest and most privileged categories of non-immigrants would be given more advantage at the University's expense over the less affluent non-immigrant citizens, e.g., the holders of student visas. See Senate Report No. 94-1009, Foreign Assistance and Related Programs Appropriation Bill, 1977 (94th Congress 2d Session) at 10405; and "University of Maryland — Possible Adjustments of Tuition and Other Charges," Annex No. 1 to Petitioner's reply brief in the Fourth Circuit, which indicates that World Bank employees are reimbursed for tuition proposals made to the University on behalf of their children.

<sup>13</sup> The definition of domicile under Maryland law as the "place where a man has his true, fixed, permanent home," Shenton v. Abbott, 178 Md. 526, 15 A.2d 906, 908 (1940), and as "residence at a particular place accompanied by positive or presumptive proof of the intention to remain there for an unlimited time," Brafman v. Brafman, 144 Md. 413, 414, 125 A. 161 (1924), would by its terms seem to preclude those who are not permanent resident aliens from acquiring domicile.

from establishing a permanent residence in this country, see, e.g., 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(F)(i); 22 C.F.R. § 41.45 (1976), the bar . . . [presented by the New York statute] . . . is of practical significance only to resident aliens." 45 U.S.L.W. at 4656.

However, the lower courts here have abandoned the natural import of the law of domicile and the plain meaning of various provisions in the immigration law and regulations, 14 to conclude that it is not universally true in fact that G-4's cannot acquire a state domicile. The effect of this ruling cannot be minimized. The Fourth Circuit's blurring of the in-state/out-of-state dividing line can only have an adverse effect on the tuition and fee policies of already financially strapped public institutions of higher education. In addition, the decisions below may affect federal tax law. The Internal Revenue Service has held that the non-domiciliary rate should be applied to the estates of G-4 aliens, reasoning that:

"The acceptance by the decedent of the prescribed terms for his admission to and stay in the United States, as required by Federal law and regulations relating to immigration and nationality, created a legal disability that rendered him incapable of forming the intention necessary for the establishment of a domicile here, as required by section 20.0-1 of the Estate Tax Regulations. This legal disability continued to exist until the time of decedent's death since he was still in the United States as an employee of an international organization holding a G-4 visa." Rev. Rul. 74-364, 1974-2 C.B. 321.

The decisions below, in effect, have held that the IRS is incorrect.

Although Respondents sought to minimize below the effect of the district court's overemphasis on the absence in the immigration law of a requirement that a G-4 visa holder "not abandon his homeland," compare

8 U.S.C. §1101(a)(15)(F) with §1101(a)(15)(G)(iv), nothing can disguise the hole in the court's analysis. The framers of 8 U.S.C. §1101 found no need to spell out the requirements of non-abandonment of homeland for non-immigrants who were obviously destined for a temporary stay in the United States keyed to their employment. Under the lower courts' superficial analysis of 1101(a)(15), diplomats (A), foreign press (I), alien crewmen (D), and even aliens in transit (C), are not prevented from obtaining a domicile in the United States. Petitioner suggests that such a reading is potentially limitless both in theory and in costs to public colleges and universities, not to say to the federal fisc.

<sup>14</sup> See pp. 6-7, supra.

#### CONCLUSION

In summary, Petitioner submits that review should be granted to lay to rest a fundamental misapplication of the irrebuttable presumption doctrine (and that doctrine too if need be). The lower courts read that doctrine to mean that even if the University was generally and nearly universally correct in its legal interpretation of federal law and the law of domicile, it was constitutionally wrong. According to the decisions below, the doctrine still demands absolute perfection on the part of state classifications. Review is also warranted to rectify a fundamental misreading of federal law which may seriously impact on the fiscal affairs of public colleges and universities, as well as those of the federal government.

Respectfully submitted,

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#### APPENDIX

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND DETERMINATION OF IN-STATE STATUS FOR ADMISSION, TUITION, AND CHARGE-DIFFERENTIAL PURPOSES<sup>1</sup>

An initial determination of in-state status for admission, tuition, and charge-differential purposes will be made by the University at the time a student's application for admission is under consideration. The determination made at that time, and any determination made thereafter, shall prevail in each semester until the determination is successfully challenged prior to the last day available for registration for the forthcoming semester. A determination regarding instate status may be changed for any subsequent semester if circumstances, as later defined, warrant redetermination.

In those instances where an entering class size is established and where an application deadline is stated, in-state conditions for admissions must be satisfied as of the announced closing application date.

#### General Policy

- 1. It is the policy of the University of Maryland to grant in-state status for admission, tuition and charge-differential purposes to United States citizens, and to immigrant aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in accordance with the laws of the United States, in the following cases:
  - a. Where a student is financially dependent upon a parent, parents, or spouse domiciled in Maryland for at least six consecutive months prior to the last day available for registration for the forthcoming semester.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Draft of August 31, 1973 as amended on September 7, 1973. Approved by the Board of Regents on September 21, 1973 to become effective with any term of the University beginning on or after January 1, 1974.

- b. Where a student is financially independent for at least the preceding twelve months, and provided the student has maintained his domicile in Maryland for at least six consecutive months immediately prior to the last day available for registration for the forthcoming semester.
- c. Where a student is the spouse or a dependent child of a full-time employee of the University.
- d. Where a student who is a member of the Armed Forces of the United States is stationed on active duty in Maryland for at least six consecutive months immediately prior to the last day available for registration for the forthcoming semester, unless such student has been assigned for educational purposes to attend the University of Maryland.
- e. Where a student is a full-time employee of the University of Maryland.
- 2. It is the policy of the University of Maryland to attribute out-of-state status for admission, tuition, and charge-differential purposes in all other cases.
- 3. Each campus of the University will be responsible for making the in-state determination for the prospective or enrolled student.
- 4. In-state status is lost at any time a financially independent student establishes a domicile outside the State of Maryland. If the parent(s) or other persons through whom the student has attained in-state status establishes a domicile in another state, the student shall be assessed out-of-state tuition and charges six months after the out-of-state move occurs.
- 5. The terms of this policy will not be applied retroactively.

#### **Definitions**

1. A student is financially dependent if he receives half or more than half of his support from another person or persons, or appears as a dependent on the federal or state income tax return of any other person. Conversely, a student is financially independent if he declares himself so, if he receives less than half of his support from any other person or persons and if he does not appear as a dependent on the federal or state income tax return of any other person.

- 2. A parent includes a natural parent, an adoptive parent, a legally-appointed guardian, and a person who stands in loco parentis to the student.
- 3. A spouse is a partner in a legally contracted marriage.
- 4. A domicile is a person's permanent place of abode; namely, there must be demonstrated an intention to live permanently or indefinitely in Maryland. For purposes of this policy only one domicile may be maintained at a given time.
- 5. The masculine gender of personal pronouns includes the feminine gender.

#### Application

- 1. A student requesting redetermination to in-state status who asserts that he is financially dependent upon a parent(s) or spouse domiciled in Maryland, as previously defined, will be required to produce by affidavit, in addition to other proof, documentation of the student's earnings for the year immediately preceding the last day of registration for the semester for which the determination is requested. Such documentation shall include relevant income tax returns, statements from employers, and/or federal and state withholding forms. An affidavit showing all expenses of the student for the same period must also be submitted.
- 2. A student requesting redetermination to in-state status who asserts that he is *financially independent* will be required to present by affidavit documentation cited in paragraph 1.
- 3. In determining domicile, the University shall take into consideration, but shall not be limited to, the following criteria as they pertain to the individual case:

- Own or rent and occupy real property in Maryland as one's domicile on a year-around basis.
- b. Maintain a substantially uninterrupted presence within Maryland for six consecutive months, including those months when the University is not in regular session.
- Maintain within the State of Maryland all or substantially all personal possessions.
- d. Pay Maryland income tax on all earned income including all taxable income earned outside the State.
- e. Register all owned motor vehicles in Maryland.
- Possess a valid Maryland driver's license, if licensed.
- g. Register to vote in Maryland, if registered.
- Give a Maryland home address on federal and state income tax forms.
- N.B. The documentation offered in these instances may be required to be in affidavit form.

#### Appeals

A student who disagrees with his classification may request a personal interview with a campus classification officer or his designee at which time the student will have an opportunity to present any and all evidence he may have bearing on his classification and to answer any questions which have been raised about his status. A student may further file a written appeal from the campus classification officer or his designee to the Intercampus Review Committee (IRC). If the decision of the IRC is adverse to him, a student may further file a written appeal to the Office of the President of the University. The decision of the President of the University or his designee shall be final.

#### Implementation

The implementation of this new policy to those eligible for redetermination will require an extended period of time. It is hoped that a decision in each case will be made within ninety (90) days of a request for redetermination. During this period of time, or any further period of time required by the University, fees and charges based on the previous determination must be paid. If the determination is changed, any excess fees and charges will be refunded.

NOTE: The deadline for meeting all requirements for an instate status and for submitting all documents for reclassification is the last day of late registration for the semester the student wishes to be classified as an in-state student.

#### CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

# Title 8, §214.1 Requirements for admission, extension, and maintenance of status.

(a) General. Every nonimmigrant alien applicant for admission or extension of stay in the United States shall establish that he is admissible to the United States or that a ground of inadmissibility has been waived under section 212(d)(3) of the Act; present a passport upon admission and only when requested in connection with an extension of stay, valid for the period set forth in section 212(a)(26) of the Act, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, and, upon admission, a valid visa, except when either or both documents have been waived; agree that he will abide by all the terms and conditions of his admission or extension, and that he will depart at the expiration of the period of his admission or extension or on abandonment of his authorized nonimmigrant status. and post a bond on Form I-352 in the sum of not less than \$500 if required by the district director, special inquiry officer, or the Board of Immigration Appeals at the time of admission or extension, to insure the maintenance of the alien's nonimmigrant status and his departure from the United States. A nonimmigrant whose visa has been automatically revalidated pursuant to 22 CFR 41.125(f) shall, if otherwise admissible, be readmitted for a period not to exceed the unexpired

period of his initial admission or extension of stay which had been authorized by the Service prior to his departure to foreign contiguous territory or adjacent islands, as endorsed by the Service on the Form I-96 issued in connection with the returning nonimmigrant's prior admission or stay and presented by him, or as endorsed by the issuing school official or program sponsor on Form I-20 or DSP-66 presented by a returning nonimmigrant as defined in paragraph (F) or (J) of section 101(a)(15) of the Act. A nonimmigrant other than one in the classes defined in section 101(a)(15)(A) (i) or (ii) or (G) (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of the Act (members of which classes are not required to obtain extensions of stay if they continue to be so recognized by the Secretary of State as members of such classes): section 101(a)(15)(B) who is visiting the United States temporarily for pleasure and section 101(a)(15) (C), (D), or (K) of the Act (members of which classes are ineligible for extensions of stay); or section 101(a)(15) (F) or (J) of the Act, and whose period of admission has not expired, shall apply on Form I-539 and may be granted or denied, without appeal, an extension of his period of temporary admission by an officer in charge of a suboffice or a district director. A separate application must be executed and submitted for each alien seeking an extension of temporary stay; however, regardless of whether they accompanied the applicant to the United States, the spouse and minor, unmarried children of any applicant who have the same nonimmigrant classification may be included in his application and may be granted the same extension without fee. If failure to file a timely application is found to be excusable, an extension may be granted from the time of expiration of authorized stay. When because of reasons beyond his control, or special circumstances, an alien needs an additional period of less than 30 days beyond his authorized stay within which to effect his departure, he may be granted such time without filing an application for extension. Extensions to members of a family group shall be for the same period; if one

member is eligible for only a six-month extension and another for a twelve-month extension, the shorter period shall govern. For procedures relating to cancellation or breaching of bonds, see Part 103 of this chapter.

- (b) Termination of status. Within the period of initial admission or extension of stay, the nonimmigrant status of an alien shall be terminated by the revocation of a waiver previously authorized in his behalf under section 212(d) (3) or (4) of the Act; or by the introduction of a private bill to confer permanent resident status on such alien.
- (c) Employment. A nonimmigrant in the United States in a class defined in section 101(a)(15)(B) of the Act as a temporary visitor for pleasure, or section 101(a)(15)(C) of the Act as an alien in transit through this country, may not engage in any employment. Any other nonimmigrant in the United States may not engage in any employment unless he has been accorded a nonimmigrant classification which authorizes employment or he has been granted permission to engage in employment in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. A nonimmigrant who is permitted to engage in employment may engage only in such employment as has been authorized. Any unauthorized employment by a nonimmigrant constitutes a failure to maintain status within the meaning of section 241(a)(9) of the Act.

OPINION (Filed July 13, 1976)

United States District Court, D. Maryland.

Civ. A. No. M-75-691

Juan Carlos Moreno et al.,

Plaintiffs,

U

University of Maryland and Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, President, University of Maryland,

Defendants.

(420 F. Supp. 541)

JAMES R. MILLER, Jr., District Judge.

Opinion and Order

This is a purported class action suit in which the named plaintiffs, Juan Carlos Moreno, Juan Pablo Otero, and Clare B. Hogg, seek declaratory and injunctive relief against the defendants, the University of Maryland and Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, its president. Both sides have filed motions for summary judgment. The named plaintiffs are currently students at the University of Maryland, College Park campus, who reside in the State of Maryland with their parents, upon whom they are financially dependent. Plaintiffs' fathers all hold nonimmigrant alien visas issued pursuant to 8 U.S.C.A. § 1101(a)(15)(G)(iv)<sup>1</sup> [G-4 visas].

As employees of certain international organizations created under international agreements to which the United States is a party, the plaintiffs' fathers are exempted from state and federal taxes on salaries paid by these organizations.<sup>2</sup>

Under policies adopted by the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland effective for any term of the University beginning on or after January 1, 1974, (hereinafter referred to as the "In-State Policy"), students are divided into two classes, i.e., "in-state" or resident on the one hand and "out-of-state" or non-resident on the other, for purposes of determining admission, tuition rates, and charge differentials. Under this policy "out-of-state" undergraduate students are required to pay \$1,260 more per year for tuition than "resident" students, as well as \$100 more per year for a room. "Out-of-state" graduate students are charged \$30 more per credit hour than "in-state" students.

The relevant sections of the "In-State-Policy" are as follows:

"General Policy

"1. It is the policy of the University of Maryland to grant in-state status for admission, tuition and charge-differential purposes to United States citizens, and to immigrant aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in accordance with the laws of the United States, in the following cases:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Title 8, U.S.C., § 1101(a)(15)(G)(iv) defines as one class of non-immigrant alien those aliens who are "officers, or employees of such international organizations [those entitled

to enjoy privileges, exemptions, and immunities as an international organization under the International Organizations Immunities Act (59 Stat. 669)], and the members of their immediate families."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Art. VII, § 9(b) of the Articles of Agreement of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (12/27/45), 60 Stat. 1440, T.I.A.S. No. 1502, as amended Dec. 16, 1965, 16 U.S.T. 1942, T.I.A.S. No. 5929 and Art. XI § 9(b) of the Agreement Establishing the Inter-American Development Bank, (4/8/59), 10 U.S.T. 3029, T.I.A.S. No. 4397. Plaintiff Clare Hogg's father is employed by the former organization usually referred to as the World Bank; the fathers of the other two named plaintiffs are employed by the latter organization.

- "a. Where a student is financially dependent upon a parent, parents, or spouse domiciled in Maryland for at least six consecutive months prior to the last day available for registration for the forthcoming semester.
- "b. Where a student is financially independent for at least the preceding twelve months, and provided the student has maintained his domicile in Maryland for at least six consecutive months immediately prior to the last day available for registration for the forthcoming semester. (Emphasis added).
- "2. It is the policy of the University of Maryland to attribute out-of-state status for admission, tuition, and charge differential purposes in all other cases.

#### "Definitions

- "1. A student is financially dependent if he receives half or more than half of his support from another person or persons, or appears as a dependent on the federal or state income tax return of any other person. Conversely, a student is financially independent if he declares himself so, if he receives less than half of his support from any other person or persons and if he does not appear as a dependent on the federal or state income tax return of any other person.
- "4. A domicile is a person's permanent place of abode; namely, there must be demonstrated an intention to live permanently or indefinitely in Maryland. For purposes of this policy only one domicile may be maintained at a given time. . . ."

There are eight criteria which under the "In-State-Policy" "the University shall take into consideration, but shall not be limited to . . ." in determining whether Maryland domicile has been established. These criteria, applied to the individual upon whom the determination of domicile depends, are whether the individual:

- a. Owns or rents and occupies real property in Maryland as his (her) domicile on a year-round basis.
- b. Maintains a substantially uninterrupted presence within Maryland for six consecutive months, including those months when the University is not in regular session.
- c. Maintains within the State of Maryland all or substantially all personal possessions.
- d. Pays Maryland income tax on all earned income including taxable income earned outside the State.
- e. Registers all owned motor vehicles in Maryland.
- Possesses a valid Maryland driver's license, if licensed.
  - g. Registers to vote in Maryland, if registered.
- h. Gives a Maryland home address on federal and state income tax forms.

(Attachment to Defendant's Answer to Plaintiffs' Request for Admissions of Fact, with emphasis added.).

The University determined that the three named plaintiffs were not entitled to "instate" status. The determination was predicated upon a conclusion that the parent on whom each was financially dependent could not be domiciled in Maryland because each was in the country on a G-4 visa. Without success, all three plaintiffs availed themselves of the three-step appellate process provided by the University to students dissatisfied with their residence classification.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The "In-State Policy" provides that:

<sup>&</sup>quot;A student who disagrees with his classification may request a personal interview with a classification officer or his designee at which time the student will have an opportunity to present any and all evidence he may have bearing on his classification and to answer any questions which have been raised about his status. A student may further file a written appeal from the campus classification officer or his designee to the Intercampus Review Committee

The pertinent facts with respect to each of the individual plaintiffs are alleged as follows:

"Plaintiff Moreno's father, Mr. Manuel A. Moreno, is a citizen of Paraguay and is the holder of a G-4 visa; he has been employed by the Inter-American Development Bank for approximately fourteen years. Manuel Moreno has owned a home in Maryland for the past twelve years. Plaintiff Moreno's mother, Mrs. Gladys M. Moreno, is a citizen of Paraguay and is the holder of a G-4 visa. Manuel and Gladys Moreno own no property in Paraguay, having sold the house which they formerly owned there in 1960. Manuel and Gladys Moreno have paid all Maryland State and Montgomery County property taxes on their home as well as all state and local retail, motor vehicle, fuel, excise and other taxes applicable to them as required by law. Manuel and Gladys Moreno each hold a Maryland driver's license; their automobiles are registered in Maryland. Manuel and Gladys Moreno have not resided anywhere other than in Maryland for the past fourteen years; they have no present intention to reside anywhere other than in the State of Maryland."

(Paper No. 1, Verified Complaint, ¶16).

"Plaintiff Moreno has lived with his parents since birth. He has lived in the United States since the age of four, has attended primary and secondary schools in the United States without interruption, and graduated from high school in Maryland. Plaintiff Moreno is a citizen of Paraguay; he now holds a G-4 visa. He holds a Maryland driver's license. He has filed United States and Maryland income tax returns for 1973 and 1974. Plaintiff Moreno has not resided anywhere other than in Maryland for the past fourteen years; he has no present intention to reside anywhere other than in the State of Maryland."

(Id., ¶ 18).

"Plaintiff Otero's father, Mr. Rene Otero, is a citizen of Bolivia and is the holder of a G-4 visa; he has been employed by the Inter-American Development Bank for approximately fourteen years. Plaintiff Otero's mother, Mrs. Teresa Bailey Otero. is a citizen of the United States; she is registered to vote in Maryland. Rene and Teresa Otero resided in the District of Columbia from the time of their arrival in the United States in 1960 until 1965, when they moved to Maryland. Rene and Teresa Otero have owned a home in Maryland since 1965 and have resided therein for ten years; they have paid all Maryland State and Montgomery County property taxes thereon as well as all state and local retail, motor vehicle, fuel, excise, and other taxes applicable to them as required by law. Rene and Teresa Otero each hold a Maryland driver's license; Rene Otero's automobile is registered in Maryland. Rene and Teresa Otero own no property in Bolivia. Rene and Teresa Otero have not resided anywhere other than in Maryland for the past ten years; they have no present intention to reside anywhere other than in the State of Maryland."

 $(Id., \P 21).$ 

"Plaintiff Otero has lived with his parents since birth. He has lived in the United States since the age of five and has attended primary schools, seconday schools, and college in the United States without interruption. Plaintiff Otero is a citizen of Bolivia: he now holds a G-4 visa; he has made application to adjust his status to that of immigrant. Plaintiff Otero holds a Maryland driver's license. Plaintiff Otero has filed both United States and Maryland income tax returns in 1972, 1973, and 1974, and he has paid income tax to both Maryland and the United States in each of those three years. Plaintiff Otero has not resided anywhere other than in Maryland for the past ten years; he has no present intention to reside anywhere other than in the State of Maryland."

<sup>(</sup>IRC). If the decision of the IRC is adverse to him, a student may further file a written appeal to the Office of the President of the University. The decision of the President of the University or his designee shall be final."

(Id., ¶ 23).

"Plaintiff [Clare B.] Hogg's father, Mr. Vincent Hogg, is a citizen of the United Kingdom and is the holder of a G-4 visa; he has been employed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for thirteen years. Plaintiff Hogg's mother, Mrs. Barbara Hogg, and the Hoggs' daughter Susan are citizens of the United Kingdom. Susan Hogg married a United States citizen in 1973 and adjusted her status to that of permanent resident alien. Vincent and Barbara Hogg resided in the District of Columbia from the time of their arrival in the United States in 1962 until 1970, when they moved to Maryland. They have resided in Maryland for five years except as described below. Vincent and Barbara Hogg own their own home in Maryland as well as a house in which they formerly resided in the District; the house in the District is rented. Vincent and Barbara Hogg own no real property in the United Kingdom with the exception of a small condominium apartment which is currently listed for sale with a real estate agent and which it is their present intention to sell as soon as a sale can be consummated. Substantially all of their personal property and investments are here in the United States with the exception of a bank account in a sum equivalent to approximately five hundred dollars maintained by Vincent Hogg in the United Kingdom for the convenience of paying life insurance premiums and professional journal subscriptions; he does not make payments to the United Kingdom's State Pension Fund. Vincent Hogg's will was written in the United States and represents that he resides in Maryland. Vincent Hogg's automobiles are registered in Maryland. Vincent and Barbara Hogg each hold a Maryland driver's license. They belong to the local civic association in the area in which they reside. Vincent and Babara Hogg have filed joint United States income tax returns every year since 1963. In 1974 they paid income taxes to both the United States and to the State of Maryland on all income other than Mr. Hogg's salary from the

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as all state and local retail, motor vehicle, fuel, excise, and other taxes applicable to them as required by law. Vincent and Barbara Hogg have not resided anywhere other than in Maryland for the past five years, with the exception of a period abroad of approximately nine months as part of Vincent Hogg's employment; they have no intention to reside anywhere other than in the State of Maryland."

(Id., ¶ 26).

"Plaintiff Hogg has resided with her parents since birth. She has lived in the United States since the age of seven and has attended primary schools. secondary school, and college in the United States without interruption, with the exception of the approximately nine-month period described in paragraph 26 above. Plaintiff Hogg is a citizen of the United Kingdom; she now holds a G-4 visa; she holds a Maryland driver's license. Plaintiff Hogg has filed both United States and Maryland income tax returns in 1973 and 1974. Plaintiff Hogg has not resided anywhere other than in Maryland for the past five years, with the exception of the approximately nine-month period described in [the above paragraph]; she has no present intention to reside anywhere other than in the State of Maryland."

(Id., § 28).

Plaintiffs claim the actions of defendants in denying them "in-state" status are in violation of the Due Process, Equal Protection and Supremacy Clauses of the Constitution. They seek to enjoin the defendants from failing to reclassify them as students having "instate" status and to enjoin the defendants from denying to any student "in-state" status either partially or wholly on the basis that such student or any parent or person on whom such student is financially dependent either holds a G-4 visa or pays no Maryland State income tax pursuant to an international agreement to

which the United States is a party on wages paid by an international organization.

Defendants have moved for summary judgment on various jurisdictional and procedural grounds, as well as on the merits of the case.

#### I. Jurisdiction

Defendants' initial argument is that this court lacks subject matter jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1343(3) or (4)<sup>4</sup> because plaintiffs' claim is founded upon the Maryland law of domicile and presents no federal question:

"Plaintiffs' cause of action and the core of their grievance does not present a deprivation by the Defendants of a federal statutory or constitutional right, privilege or immunity, but rather, rests upon an interpretation of the Maryland definition of domicile." (Memorandum in Support of Defendants' Motion For Summary Judgment, at p. 10).

[1] Plaintiffs filed this suit pursuant to, inter alia, 42 U.S.C. § 1983 which authorizes a "suit in equity" against a "person" to redress "the deprivation" under color of any State regulation "of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution" to any "person within the jurisdiction" of the United States. This section creates a federal cause of action but it does not by itself confer jurisdiction on federal district courts to adjudicate claims brought pursuant to it. The jurisdictional counterpart of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 is 28

"(4) To recover damages or to secure equitable or other relief under any Act of Congress providing for the protection of civil rights, including the right to vote." U.S.C. § 1343. Hagans v. Lavine, 415 U.S. 528, 94 S. Ct. 1372, 39 L. Ed. 2d 577 (1974). Jurisdiction under § 1343(3) exists at least for deprivations by state officials of rights "secured by the Constitution of the United States." Jurisdiction exists in this court under § 1343 (3) if a constitutional claim of sufficient substance has been raised by the § 1983 cause of action. Hagans v. Lavine, supra.

[2] Plaintiffs' § 1983 claim is premised on the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment. Contrary to defendants' assertions, it is not the Maryland law of domicile which gives rise to this suit, but rather the "In-State Policy" of the University of Maryland which has been interpreted by the defendants as automatically classifying holders of G-4 visas as non-residents for purposes of tuition, on the assumption that no one in the United States on a G-4 visa can ever have the requisite intent to establish a Maryland domicile. The due process claim, premised on an argument that the University of Maryland's policy establishes an irrebutable presumption with respect to residence and domicile for tuition purposes similar to that struck down in Vlandis v. Kline, 412 U.S. 441, 93 S. Ct. 2230, 37 L. Ed. 2d 63 (1973), and the equal protection claim, based on an alleged violation of both the strict scrutiny and the reasonable basis-rational relationship tests, are at the heart of this case. These are matters of federal law. Moreover, these claims are not so insubstantial as to warrant dismissal for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. Such dismissal could be granted only as to claims "absolutely devoid of merit," Newburyport Water Co. v. Newburyport, 193 U.S. 561, 579, 24 S. Ct. 553, 48 L. Ed. 795 (1904); "wholly insubstantial,"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Title 28, U.S.C., § 1343 provides that the district courts have jurisdiction of any civil action authorized by law to be commenced by any person:

<sup>&</sup>quot;(3) To redress the deprivation, under color of any State law, statute, ordinance, regulation, custom or usage, of any right, privilege or immunity secured by the Constitution of the United States or by any Act of Congress providing for equal rights of citizens or of all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Whether the jurisdictional scope of § 1343(3) is fully coextensive with the substantive provisions of § 1983, so that § 1343(3) would provide jurisdiction for any suit premised on the deprivation under color of state law of a right secured by any Act of Congress is a question not yet decided by the Supreme Court, *Hagans v. Lavine*, supra, at 534 note 5, 94 S. Ct. 1372, but the Fourth Circuit has so held. Blue v. Craig, 505 F.2d 830 (4th Cir. 1974).

Bailey v. Patterson, 369 U.S. 31, 33, 82 S. Ct. 549, 7 L. Ed. 2d 512 (1962); "obviously frivolous," Hannis Distilling Co. v. Baltimore, 216 U.S. 285, 288, 30 S. Ct. 326, 54 L. Ed. 482 (1910); or "no longer open to discussion," McGilvra v. Ross, 215 U.S. 70, 80, 30 S. Ct. 27, 54 L. Ed. 95 (1909). See also Hagans v. Lavine, supra, Baker v. Carr, 369 U.S. 186, 198-204, 82 S. Ct. 691, 7 L. Ed. 2d 663 (1962).

The claims in this case are clearly not insubstantial. See Vlandis v. Kline, supra; Hooban v. Boling, 503 F.2d 648 (6th Cir. 1974); Klem v. Carlson, 473 F.2d 1267 (6th Cir. 1973); Jagnandan v. Giles, 379 F. Supp. 1178 (N.D. Miss. 1974); Sturgis v. State of Washington, 368 F. Supp. 38 (W.D. Wash.), aff'd mem. 414 U.S. 1057, 94 S. Ct. 563, 38 L. Ed. 2d 464 (1973); Starns v. Malkerson, 326 F. Supp. 234 (D. Minn. 1970), aff'd mem. 401 U.S. 985, 91 S. Ct. 1231, 28 L. Ed. 2d 527 (1971).

# II. Are the Defendants "Persons" within 42 U.S.C. § 1983?

[3] Defendants argue that this suit cannot be maintained against either the University of Maryland or Dr. Elkins, its President, since neither are "persons" within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

In Monroe v. Pape, 365 U.S. 167, 81 S. Ct. 473, 5 L. Ed. 2d 492 (1961), the Supreme Court held that municipalities were not "persons" within the meaning of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, at least in damage suits. Kenosha v. Bruno, 412 U.S. 507, 93 S. Ct. 2222, 37 L. Ed. 2d 109 (1973), makes clear that that ruling also applies where the only relief sought is injunctive or declaratory. Moor v. County of Alameda, 411 U.S. 693, 93 S. Ct. 1785, 36 L. Ed. 2d 596 (1973), established that counties were not § 1983 persons. In Huntley v. North Carolina State Board of Education, 493 F.2d 1016, 1017 n.2 (4th Cir. 1974), the Fourth Circuit decided that municipal agencies are not "persons" for § 1983 purposes. A state is also not a proper defendant in a § 1983 action. Meyer v. State of New Jersey, 460 F.2d 1252 (3rd Cir. 1972; Whitner v. Davis, 410 F.2d 24 (9th Cir. 1969); Hinish v. State of Maryland, 393 F. Supp 53 (D. Md. 1975). This doctrine applies equally to state agencies. Bennett v. People of State of California, 406 F.2d 36 (9th Cir.), cert. den., 394 U.S. 966, 89 S. Ct. 1320, 22 L. Ed. 2d 568; Cheramie v. Tucker, 493 F.2d 586 (5th Cir.), cert. den., 419 U.S. 868, 95 S. Ct. 126, 42 L. Ed. 2d 107 (1974); Edwards v. Philadephia Electric Co., 371 F. Supp. 1313 (D.C. Pa. 1974), aff'd 510 F.2d 969 (3rd Cir. 1975).

If the University of Maryland is a state agency, it is not a "person" within § 1983 and no cause of action can be brought against it under that section. Courts considering whether a particular college or university is or is not a state agency have considered the laws of the state as they define the relationship between the state and the school; whether the school is performing a governmental or proprietary function; whether it has been separately incorporated; the degree of the school's autonomy over its operations; the ownership of the school's property; whether its property is immune from state taxation; whether the sovereign has immunized itself from responsibility for the school's operations; whether a judgment for damages against the school would be payable out of the state treasury; and the source of the school's financing. It has also been stated that generally the same inquiry is made and criteria considered in determining whether a state university is a § 1983 "person" as is made in deciding whether a damage suit against the state university would be barred by the Eleventh Amendment. See Gordenstein v. University of Delaware, 381 F. Supp. 718 (D. Del. 1974); Samuel v. University of Pittsburgh, 375 F. Supp. 1119 (W.D. Pa. 1974), app. dismissed 506 F.2d 355 (3d Cir. 1974); Langsner v. Morgan State College, Civil No. HM-74-1359 (D. Md. Jan. 9, 1976).

In Langsner Judge Herbert F. Murray held that Morgan State University was a state agency and not a "person" within the meaning of § 1983. In the present case an uncontradicted affidavit of Dr. Wilson H.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Under Rule 56, F.R.Civ.P., the uncontradicted facts in this affidavit may be taken as true.

Elkins, President of the University of Maryland, has been filed which establishes that virtually all of the factors considered determinative in Langsner apply also to the University of Maryland. These factors set forth in the margin fall within the scope of the factors discussed in Gordenstein, supra, and Samuel, supra, as well. We are persuaded that the University of Mary-

7 Dr. Wilson's affidavit states:

"(a) All real property of the University belongs to the State of Maryland, and substantially all such property is titled in the name of the State of Maryland to the Use and Benefit of the University of Maryland or to the Use and Benefit of the Board of Regents of the University of

Maryland:

"(b) The sale and/or lease of real property of the University is reviewed by the Department of General Services, State of Maryland, and approved by the Board of Public Works (including the Governor of the State of Maryland), State of Maryland. The acquisition and/or lease of real property by the University of Maryland is similarly reviewed and approved;

"(c) All, or substantially all, of the contracts and leases to which the University of Maryland is a party are first reviewed by the Office of the Attorney General,

State of Maryland;

"(d) Payroll checks of employees of the University are drawn on the treasury of the State of Maryland and bear the facsimile signatures of the Treasurer and

Comptroller of the State of Maryland;

"(e) The annual Budget of the University is presented to and must be approved by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, and is subject to review and amendment by the State Department of Budget and

Fiscal Planning:

"(f) All University funds are funds of the State of Maryland. All funds available to the University are obtained substantially through appropriations of the Maryland General Assembly, including student fees, and government and private grants, which are specifically appropriated by the General Assembly for use by the University. All, or substantially all, bills paid by the University are paid through checks drawn on the Treasury of the State of Maryland;

"(g) The purchase of goods and equipment by the University is exempt from Maryland Sales Tax. The

land, like Morgan State College, is not a § 1983 "person" and cannot be sued under that section.

With respect to the other defendant, Dr. Elkins, however, it is equally clear that when he is sued in his official capacity under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 in a suit seeking injunctive and declaratory relief only, he is a "person"

University is entitled to avail itself of the purchasing facilities of the Maryland Department of Budget and

Procurement;

"(h) The University's financial records are audited by the Maryland General Assembly, Division of Legislative Auditors. The University must also provide to the Board of Public Works or any member of the General Assembly any requested information about any phase of its operation, and must make an annual report thereon to the latter;

"(i) Decisions by the University with respect to employment grievances, including terminations, of classified employees, are appealable for determination by the Secretary of Personnel, State of Maryland;

"(j) Such comprehensive liability insurance as the University is permitted to carry is authorized and limited under Article 77A, § 15A of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Insurance to University property is provided through participation in State of Maryland Insurance Plans;

"(k) The Board of Regents of the University consists of fifteen members. The Governor of the State of Maryland appoints fourteen with the advice and consent of the State Senate. The remaining members are the

Maryland Secretary of Agriculture;

"(I) The Governor, the State Treasurer, and the State Comptroller are notified of all meetings of the Board of Regents of the University and have the authority to sit with the Board. The State budget director, and the chairmen of the State Senate Finance committee and the State House Ways and Means committee are invited to sit with the Board when requests for appropriations are prepared.

"(m) The University obtains its legal representation from the Attorney General of the State of Maryland"

In addition to the above, as noted by Judge Murray in Langsner, Art. 78A § 16C of the Annotated Code of Maryland would appear to indicate that any money judgment, against the University of Maryland "will be paid, if at all, by the State of Maryland." Langsner, p. 9.

for purposes of that section and amenable to suit thereunder. Burt v. Board of Trustees of Edgefield Co. School Dist., 521 F.2d 1201 (4th Cir. 1975); Harper v. Kloster, 486 F.2d 1134 (4th Cir. 1973); Gay Students Organization of the Univ. of New Hampshire v. Bonner, 509 F.2d 652 (1st Cir. 1974); Rochester v. White, 503 F.2d 263 (3d Cir. 1974); Langsner v. Morgan State College, supra.

#### III. Case or Controversy

[4] Defendants argue that this court lacks jurisdiction because no Art. III § 28 case or controversy exists between the plaintiffs and the defendants because the plaintiffs, dependent as they are on their parents, presumably do not pay their own tuition and thus stand to lose or gain nothing by the outcome of this lawsuit. Aside from the lack of evidence in the record to support the underlying assumption on the part of the defendants it is clear that the plaintiffs in this case are presenting a constitutional question "in the context of a specific live grievance." Golden v. Zwickler, 394 U.S. 103, 110, 89 S. Ct. 956, 960, 22 L. Ed. 2d 113 (1969). It is the plaintiffs themselves who attend the University of Maryland and who are allegedly being unconstitutionally overcharged by that institution.

The plaintiffs in this case have a personal stake in the outcome and have an interest adverse to the defendants since the tuition rates charged them as non-residents must be paid in order for them to attend the University of Maryland. Plaintiffs' complaint alleges that they themselves are being subjected to higher tuition and other costs. Moreover, under Maryland law, Annotated Code of Maryland, Art. 1 § 24, plaintiffs who are all over 18, are adults. The law places no responsibility on their parents to pay their tuition. If these rates cannot be paid, either by the plaintiffs themselves, by their parents, or by both parents and students, the

resulting loss of educational opportunity falls squarely on the plaintiffs. They have a sufficient interest to make the lawsuit an Article III case or controversy under the tests laid down by the Supreme Court. O'Shea v. Littleton, 414 U.S. 488, 94 S. Ct. 669, 38 L. Ed. 2d 674 (1974); Goosby v. Osser, 409 U.S. 512, 93 S. Ct. 854, 35 L. Ed. 2d 36 (1973); see also Warth v. Seldin, 422 U.S. 490, 95 S. Ct. 2197, 45 L. Ed. 2d 343 (1975); Super Tire Engineering Co. v. McCorkle, 416 U.S. 115, 94 S. Ct. 1694, 40 L. Ed. 2d 1 (1974).

#### IV. Standing

[5] Defendants also allege that plaintiffs lack standing to sue because they are financially dependent on their parents who, therefore, presumably pay all of plaintiffs' tuition costs. While the Supreme Court has noted that the concept of justiciability, which expresses the "case or controversy" requirement of Article III, is not synonymous with that of standing, Schlesinger v. Reservists, etc., To Stop The War, 418 U.S. 208, 215, 94 S. Ct. 2925, 41 L. Ed. 2d 706 (1974), they do overlap. See Warth v. Seldin, supra, 422 U.S. at 498-499, 95 S. Ct. at 2204, where it is stated:

"In its constitutional dimension, standing imports justiciability: whether the plaintiff has made out a 'case or controversy' between himself and the defendant within the meaning of Art. III. This is the threshold question in every federal case. determining the power of the court to entertain the suit. As an aspect of justiciability, the standing question is whether the plaintiff has 'alleged such a personal stake in the outcome of the controversy' as to warrant his invocation of federal-court jurisdiction and to justify exercise of the court's remedial powers on his behalf. Baker v. Carr. 369 U.S. 186, 204 [82 S. Ct. 691, 7 L. Ed. 2d 663] (1962). The Art. III judicial power exists only to redress or otherwise to protect against injury to the complaining party, even though the court's judgment may benefit others collaterally. A federal court's jurisdiction therefore can be invoked only when the plaintiff himself has suffered 'some threatened or

Art. III § 2 of the Constitution of the United States limits the judicial power of federal courts to "Cases" or "Controversies."

actual injury resulting from the putatively illegal action. . . . 'Linda R. S. v. Richard D., 410 U.S. 614, 617 [93 S. Ct. 1146, 35 L. Ed. 2d 536] (1973). See Association of Data Processing Service, Inc. v. Camp, 397 U.S. 150, 151-154 [90 S. Ct. 827, 25 L. Ed. 2d 184] (1970)." (Footnotes omitted).

The plaintiffs in this case, as discussed above, are asserting their own legal rights and interests and have a sufficient stake in the outcome of this lawsuit to establish standing to bring it. United States v. SCRAP, 412 U.S. 669, 93 S. Ct. 2405, 37 L. Ed. 2d 254 (1973); Association of Data Processing Organizations Inc. v. Camp, 397 U.S. 150, 90 S. Ct. 827, 25 L. Ed. 2d 184 (1970).

#### V. The Eleventh Amendment

Defendants argue that the Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution bars this suit.9

[6, 7] Since the defendant University of Maryland cannot be sued under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, the Eleventh Amendment defense need be considered only with respect to Dr. Elkins. The short answer to this contention is that the Eleventh Amendment does not bar suits seeking only prospective injunctive relief against state officials who, acting in their official capacity under color of state law or regulation, deprive plaintiffs of constitutional rights. Edelman v. Jordan, 415 U.S. 651, 94 S. Ct. 1347, 39 L. Ed. 2d 662 (1974); Ex Parte Young, 209 U.S. 123, 28 S. Ct. 441, 52 L. Ed. 714 (1908). Any ancillary effect which a prospective injunction against Dr. Elkins, if issued in this case, would have on the treasury of the State of Maryland is a "permissible and often an inevitable consequence of the principle announced in Ex Parte Young, supra." Edelman v. Jordan, supra, 415 U.S. at 668, 94 S. Ct. at 1358.

#### VI. Absention

[8] Defendants urge the court to abstain from deciding this case in order that the Maryland courts can decide if a G-4 alien can be domiciled in Maryland.

Abstention is a judicially created doctrine. It has several branches to its family tree. Two of these branches are urged as applicable here to warrant this federal court to stay its hand.

The first is the abstention rationale enunciated in Burford v. Sun Oil Co., 319 U.S. 315, 63 S. Ct. 1098, 87 L. Ed. 1424 (1943), holding that a federal court should abstain in order to avoid unnecessary conflict with the regulation by a state of a complicated area of local interest.

The Burford case arose out of disputes concerning the application of a regulation of the Texas Railroad Commission establishing minimum spacing between oil wells. In Burford the Court stressed that abstention was appropriate because the Texas scheme of regulating oil and gas drilling was an extremely thorny problem involving certain "non-legal complexities." (Id. at 323, 63 S. Ct. 1098). The Texas legislature had established a Commission to resolve these technically complicated geologic factual disputes, "as a part of the entire conservation program with implications to the whole economy of the state." (Id. at 325, 63 S. Ct. at 1103). Moreover the Texas legislature had also established a system of thorough judicial review by its own state courts which could provide as full relief as could the federal courts. By concentrating all direct review of the Commission's orders in the state district court of one county, the Texas legislature also sought to avoid the confusion of multiple review of the same general issues. Prior interference by federal courts in this regulatory scheme, the Burford Court noted, had previously caused such confusion and had created numerous problems for the Texas Governor, the Texas legislature and the Railroad Commission.

<sup>9</sup> The Eleventh Amendment provides:

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Judicial power of the United States shall be construed to extend to any suit in law or in equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State."

The considerations which persuaded the Burford Court to order federal abstention are absent from this case. The process by which the University of Maryland determines a student's domicile does not involve a complicated area which the Maryland legislature has singled out for special treatment. The legislature has not seen the need to create a state agency staffed with experts in order to effect a consistent and harmonizing treatment of a particularly thorny matter of local interest. There is no special system of judicial review. There is no history of prior interference by the federal courts in the University of Maryland's procedures, causing confusion and inconsistency. It is not predictable that the normal functioning of the system by which the state determines a student's domicile would give rise to a surfeit of lawsuits seeking to interpose federal courts in matters of purely state interest. Even this suit, although the named plaintiffs do seek this court to declare them Maryland domiciliaries, has as its primary thrust to force the classification process to operate meaningfully with respect to G-4 alien students. The plaintiffs here are not seeking to "short circuit" the University of Maryland's classification scheme, but rather have submitted themselves to it. A decision by this court on the merits of plaintiff's complaints will not conflict with a state regulatory scheme in the manner feared by the Court in Burford. Since none of the factors determinative in Burford exists here, abstention on the rationale of that case is not warranted.

The second branch of the abstention family tree invoked by the defendants is the so-called *Pullman* doctrine. The decision in *Railroad Commission of Texas* v. *Pullman Co.*, 312 U.S. 496, 61 S. Ct. 643, 85 L. Ed. 971 (1941), and its progeny have established that abstention is proper where an interpretation or construction of an unclear state statutory or constitutional provision might end the litigation, thereby eliminating the need for a federal court to resolve federal constitutional issues. *Kusper v. Pontikes*, 414 U.S. 51, 94 S. Ct. 303, 38 L. Ed. 2d 260 (1973); *Lake Carriers' Association v.* 

MacMullan, 406 U.S. 498, 92 S. Ct. 1749, 32 L. Ed. 2d 257 (1974). The primary reasons for invoking abstention in the Pullman context are to avoid unnecessary friction in federal-state relations and to avoid premature federal constitutional adjudication. Harman v. Forssenius, 380 U.S. 528, 85 S. Ct. 1177, 14 L. Ed. 2d 50 (1965).

The language of the "In-State Policy" of the University of Maryland which is under attack here is not subject to an interpretation in a Maryland court which would avoid plaintiffs' federal constitutional challenge. That regulation on its face establishes that only "U.S. citizens" and "immigrant aliens" can establish in-state status, and then only under certain conditions which are discussed infra. By virtue of the words of the "In-State Policy," the University of Maryland, as a result of the fact that the plaintiffs' fathers, whose domiciles are determinative of their respective dependent's residency status, are all non-immigrant G-4 aliens, will automatically attribute to them out-of-state status for admission. tuition and charge differential purposes. No interpretation of the wording of the "In-State Policy" has been offered which changes that stated result. Since the regulation is clear and is not subject to any interpretation which could avoid a federal constitutional issue. the reasons for invoking the Pullman abstention doctrine are absent. Wisconsin v. Constantineau, 400 U.S. 433, 437-439, 91 S. Ct. 507, 27 L. Ed. 2d 515 (1971); Zwickler v. Koota, 389 U.S. 241, 250, 251, 88 S. Ct. 391, 19 L. Ed. 2d 444 (1967).

Nevertheless, defendants argue that abstention is appropriate because the Maryland courts have never decided whether or not a G-4 alien could establish a Maryland domicile. This novel abstention argument would require federal courts to abstain whenever an unresolved question of state common law is involved in federal constitutional litigation. Defendants have presented no authority, and the court has found none, which supports the application of the abstention

doctrine in these circumstances. The Maryland common law of domicile is clear and provides sufficient background to resolve the domicile question raised by the plaintiffs in the context of their federal constitutional challenge to the University of Maryland's policies. See Mariniello v. Shell Oil Company, 511 F.2d 853, 860-861 (3rd Cir. 1973).

Federal district courts are presumed to be knowledgeable in the law of the states in which they sit, see Runyon v. McCray, \_\_\_ U.S. \_\_\_, \_\_\_, 96 S. Ct. 2586, 49 L. Ed. 2d 415 (1976), and are often called upon to resolve state law domicile questions in diversity of citizenship cases.10 While this is not a diversity case and there is a constitutional question to be resolved, on balance, it would be unwise to extend the abstention doctrine to a case such as this. No principles of federalism would be advanced since no unclear state statute or constitutional provision subject to state court construction or interpretation is involved. The delay and expense attendant if the court abstained would be great. Abstention has been confined to certain narrowly limited special circumstances, Kusper v. Pontikes, supra; Lake Carrier's Association v. MacMullan, supra; Lindsey v. Normet, 405 U.S. 56, 92 S. Ct. 862, 31 L. Ed. 2d 36 (1972), which do not exist here. Therefore, the court declines to abstain in this case. See also Examining Board of Engineers, Architects and Surveyors v. DeOtero, 426 U.S. 572, 96 S. Ct. 2264, 49 L. Ed. 2d 65 (1976).

# VII. The Merits A. Due Process

Plaintiffs raise a due process claim, relying principally on Vlandis v. Kline, 412 U.S. 441, 93 S. Ct. 2230, 37 L. Ed. 2d 63 (1973); Stanley v. Illinois, 405 U.S. 645, 92 S. Ct. 1208, 31 L. Ed. 2d 551 (1972), and Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFleur, 414 U.S. 632, 94 S. Ct. 791, 39 L. Ed. 2d 52 (1974). While plaintiffs do not challenge the University of Maryland's policy of charging non-domiciliaries higher tuition rates, they do allege that the University of Maryland's "In-State Policy" creates an irrebuttable presumtpion, that non-immigrant aliens holding G-4 visas cannot establish a Maryland domicile, a fact that is not, they argue, universally true.

In Vlandis, the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional a Connecticut statute which classified certain married and unmarried students accepted for admission to the University of Connecticut as out-of-state students for tuition purposes based on the applicant's legal address prior to or at the time of his application. Under the statute, if a student were classified "out-of-state" under this system at the time of application for admission, the student could not change his status no matter what the student's actual domiciliary intent was at a later date. The student's status established at the time of his application for admission was deemed to continue during his period of attendance at the university.

In reaching its decision the Court noted:

"It may be that most applicants to Connecticut's university system who apply from outside the State or within a year of living out of State have no real intention of becoming Connecticut residents and will never do so. But it is clear that not all of the applicants from out of State inevitably fall in this category." (412 U.S. at 448, 93 S. Ct. at 2234).

Under these circumstances, the Court rejected the state's attempts at justification and held that:

"... since Connecticut purports to be concerned with residency in allocating the rates for tuition and fees in its university system, it is forbidden by the Due Process Clause to deny an individual the

Abstention has never been deemed appropriate in diversity cases merely where there are unsettled questions of state law involved. McNeese v. Board of Education, 373 U.S. 668, 673, n. 5, 83 S. Ct. 1433, 10 L. Ed. 2d 622 (1963); Meredith v. Winter Haven, 320 U.S. 228, 64 S. Ct. 7, 88 L. Ed. 9 (1943); Martin v. State Farm Insurance Co., 375 F.2d 720, 722 (4th Cir. 1967).

resident rates on the basis of a permanent and irrebuttable presumption of non-residence, when that presumption is not necessarily true in fact, and when the State has reasonable alternative means of making the crucial determination. Rather, standards of due process require that the State allow such an individual the opportunity to present evidence showing that he is a bona-fide resident entitled to in-state rates." (412 U.S. at 452, 93 S. Ct. at 2236).

In Stanley v. Illinois, 405 U.S. 645, 92 S. Ct. 1208, 31 L. Ed. 2d 551 (1972), the Court held unconstitutional on due process grounds Illinois' statutory irrebuttable presumption that all unmarried fathers are unqualified to raise their children. The Court said that a state could not conclusively presume that every unmarried father was unfit to raise his children, but must under the due process clause provide an opportunity for a hearing on the issue of a particular unmarried father's fitness where his fitness was challenged.

Similarly, in Cleveland Board of Education v. LaFleur, 414 U.S. 632, 94 S. Ct. 791, 39 L. Ed. 2d 52 (1974), the Court invalidated mandatory leave and return rules for pregnant teachers in Ohio and Virginia on due process grounds, because the rules established conclusive presumptions of facts which were not universally true, namely that all women, who were 4 or 5 months pregnant or who gave birth 3 months or less before they sought to return to work, were physically incapable of performing their duties. The Court held that such determinations had to be made on an individual basis. The maternity leave rules were found to have no rational relationship to the interests of those states in preserving continuity of instruction and in protecting the health of the mother or expectant mother.

In this case, then, several questions relative to plaintiffs' due process claim must be resolved: (1) does the University of Maryland's "In-State Policy" create an irrebuttable presumption concerning the domicile of G-4 alien? (2) if so, is that presumption appropriate because universally true? (3) if not, can the defendants so justify that presumption as to save it from unconstitutionality?

The defendants argue that the "In-State Policy" does not rest upon or create an irrebuttable presumption as to the domicile of a G-4 alien, but merely establishes the status of an individual as a G-4 alien as one of the factors to be considered in determining domicile for tuition purposes, albeit the "paramount" factor. Defendants also argue that there is no irrebuttable presumption, because plaintiffs may, as may any other student, obtain review of their domiciliary classification at any time. However, these arguments fall short of the mark. As admitted at oral argument, and as evidenced by the express language of the "In-State Policy," the University of Maryland determines on a case-by-case basis for tuition and fees purposes the domicile of only "United States citizens and . . . immigrant aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in accordance with the laws of the United States." Under the University's policies, a financially independent student in the United States on the basis of a G-4 visa, or a student who is financially dependent on a parent who holds a G-4 visa, as are the named plaintiffs in this case, is automatically "attributed out-of-state status for admission, tuition, and charge differential purposes. . . . "11 So long as the G-4 visa status of the student or his parent continues, any other evidence of domicile brought before the University could not possibly produce a reclassification of the student in question. The single controlling factor in the case of a G-4 alien is that visa classification. All other facts relating to domicile are irrelevant. The fact that the State will listen to evidence totally immaterial to its predetermined conclusion concerning the domicile of a G-4 alien

The University bases the tuition rates of a financially dependent student on the domicile of his parents. A parent with a G-4 visa could not, under the In-State Policy, establish a Maryland domicile.

does not make that conclusion any less irrebuttable. See United States Department of Agriculture v. Murry, 413 U.S. 508, 512, 93 S. Ct. 2382, 37 L. Ed. 2d 767 (1973); Stanley v. Illinois, supra.

However, even if a certain presumption of fact is irrebuttable, the resulting classification system is not a fortiori unconstitutional. If the presumed fact is necessarily true, it would be different from the presumptions about students in Vlandis, mothers in LaFleur, fathers in Stanley, household members in Murry, and drivers in Bell v. Burson, 402 U.S. 535, 91 S. Ct. 1586, 29 L. Ed. 2d 90 (1971), among others, which the Court has previously invalidated.

The defendants have argued that domicile is the basis on which tuition rates are determined and that all non-resident aliens, including those in the United States on G-4 visas, are precluded by the terms and conditions of their visas from being domiciled in Maryland. If, as the defendants argue, under the law of domicile of Maryland, a G-4 alien cannot establish domicile, then a classification based on domicile which presumes non-domicile for such aliens is not contrary to fact and is universally true. Inquiry therefore must be made into the common law of Maryland relating to domicile and into federal law defining the nature of a G-4 alien's stay in the United States.

#### B. Maryland Law of Domicile

In Shenton v. Abbott, 178 Md. 526, 15 A.2d 906 (1940), the Court of Appeals of Maryland held that:

"A person's domicile is the place with which he has a settled connection for legal purposes, either because his home is there or because that place is assigned to him by the law. It is well defined as that place where a man has his true, fixed, permanent home, habitation and principal establishment, without any intention of removing therefrom, and to which place he has, whenever he is absent, the intention of returning." (Id., at 530, 15 A.2d at 908).

Shenton v. Abbott also establishes that a person retains his original domicile if he does not acquire a new one. Two elements must be shown to prove a change of domicile: (1) actual removal to or physical presence in another habitation and (2) an intent to remain there permanently or at least for an unlimited time. Id. at 530, 15 A.2d 906. If a person has established a new domicile, a "floating intent to return to his former domicile at some future time" does not negative the intent to establish the new domicile. Id. at 533, 15 A.2d at 909.

It is indisputable in this case that plaintiffs' fathers, because they are G-4 aliens, did not have Maryland as their respective original domiciles but each could only have acquired a Maryland domicile if he had changed his original domicile. The court in Shenton also stated:

"No temporary residence, whether for the purposes of business, health, or pleasure, occasions a change of domicil. Even though a person may be absent from his domicil for many years, and may return only at long intervals, nevertheless he retains his domicil if he does not acquire a domicil elsewhere." (Id., at 530, 15 A.2d at 908).

As a general proposition of law, Shenton noted that "[T]he determination of the place of domicil depends upon the circumstances of each case." (Id., at 533, 15 A.2d at 909). All of these principles are still controlling Maryland law. Bainum v. Kalen, 272 Md. 490, 325 A.2d 392 (1974); Knapp v. Comptroller, 269 Md. 697, 309 A.2d 635 (1973); Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. v. Craddock, 26 Md. App. 296, 338 A.2d 363 (1975).

In addition to physical presence and intent to remain permanently or indefinitely, the Maryland courts implicitly recognize, as another factor necessary to the establishment of a new domicile, that the person seeking to change his domicile must have the legal capacity to do so. Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. v. Craddock, supra, at 303, 338 A.2d 363. See Restatement (Second) of Conflicts, § 15 (1971). Thus, in the case of a

minor child, ordinarily legally incapable of a domicile separate from that of its parent, the domicile of a minor child in Maryland is with its parents. If the child's parents are divorced, the child's domicile is that of the parent to whom legal custody has been awarded. Taylor v. Taylor, 246 Md. 616, 619, 229 A.2d 131 (1966); Berlin v. Berlin, 239 Md. 52, 55, 210 A.2d 380 (1964); Rethorst v. Rethorst, 214 Md. 1, 133 A.2d 101 (1957). However, a minor child retains the domicile of its father if the child lives with neither parent. Rethorst v. Rethorst, supra, at 12. 133 A.2d 101. If there has been no legal fixing of custody, then the minor child's domicile is that of the parent with whom it lives. Id.; Ross v. Pick, 199 Md. 341, 349, 86 A.2d 463 (1952). A minor child who falls within these common law principles can never establish an independent domicile, whatever may be that child's intent to do so. Because a minor child is not sui juris and can therefore not have legal effect given to its actual intent, physical presence in a certain state, and an intent to remain there indefinitely, do not fix or change the domicile of a minor. During minority, the common law fixes the child's domicile. Sudler v. Sudler, 121 Md. 46, 88 A. 26 (1913).

There is nothing in Maryland law, possibly aside from the principle that a person intending a change in domicile must be legally capable of doing so, to prevent a G-4 visa holder from obtaining a Maryland domicile. Therefore, federal law must be examined to determine whether such law relating to G-4 aliens in any respect renders such aliens legally incapable of changing the domicil.

#### C. Federal Law

The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, 8 U.S.C. § 1101 et seq., defines 12 classes of nonimmigrant aliens which, including subclasses, describe 17 types of nonimmigrants. Class G aliens are aliens who are in the United States as resident representatives of foreign governments and members of their immediate families and staffs, as well as aliens who are foreign

representatives to or employees of international organizations covered by the International Organizations Immunities Act, 22 U.S.C. § 288, and members of their immediate families and personal staffs. Specifically, G-4 aliens are:

"(iv) officers, or employees of such international organizations and the members of their immediate families."

In contrast to those classes of aliens who are defined as aliens "having a residence in a foreign country which [they have] no intention of abandoning," 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(B), (F), (H), (J), or as aliens who intend to enter the United States "temporarily" or who are "in transit" § 1101(a)(15)(C), (D), (L), a G-4 alien is simply defined as an employee of an international organization. The statute, therefore, does not define a G-4 alien in terms of an express intent on the part of such alien relative to his domicile.

The visa itself held by a G-4 alien is not determinative of the domicile issue. A visa is essentially a document of entry. Alves v. Alves, 262 A.2d 111, 115 (D.C. App. 1970); see 22 C.F.R. § 41.120. Its period of validity has no relation to the period of time an alien may be authorized by the immigration authorities to stay in the United States, 22 C.F.R. §41.122(a). The stay of a G-4 alien is governed by regulations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. 8 U.S.C. § 1184(a). As provided in 8 C.F.R. § 214.1(a):

"(a) General. Every nonimmigrant alien applicant for admission or extension of stay in the United States shall... agree that he will abide by all terms and conditions of his admission or extension, and that he will depart at the expiration of the period of his admission or extension or an abandonment of his authorized nonimmigrant status."

The period of admission of a G-4 alien is for so long as the alien continues to be recognized by the Secretary of State as a member of that class of aliens. In terms of the present case, the period of admission of the plaintiffs' fathers is for so long as they are respectively employed by international organizations governed by the International Organizations Immunities Act, cited supra. 8 C.F.R. §§ 214.1(a), 214.2(g).<sup>12</sup>

[9] The mere fact that a G-4 alien is subject to being deported if he changes his employment does not make him legally incapable of establishing a Maryland domicile or of intending to remain or remaining here indefinitely. In Alves v. Alves, supra, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals held specifically that a G-4 alien was domiciled in the District of Columbia. In that divorce case the appellant wife challenged the finding of the lower court that her husband was a D.C. domiciliary on the ground here argued that "the appellee did not have the legal capacity to form an intention to become a domiciliary of the District of Columbia since he was living here at the grace of Great Britain and United States." (Id., at 114). The wife also argued that the husband had to adjust his status to permanent resident before he could become domiciled in the District of Columbia. 13 The Alves court rejected the last contention holding that under the immigration laws it is legally possible "for an alien to remain in the United States for many years . . . without applying for permanent residence" and that such a contention wrongfully ignores, "the period of time [the alien had] resided in the District of Columbia, his intention in moving into the District of Columbia and other relevant factors." ((Id., at 115). As to the first contention the court held:

"The fact that appellee entered the United States on a nonimmigrant visa . . . does not preclude a finding that appellee could become domiciled in the District of Columbia.

floating intent to return to Great Britain conditioned upon an uncertain event — his dismissal from the I.M.F. — which event may never occur. But such a floating intention to return to Great Britain is not sufficient to require a holding that appellee was still domiciled in Great Britain." (footnotes omitted). (Id., at 115-116).

Accord, Rzeszotarski v. Rzeszotarski, 296 A.2d 431 (D.C. App. 1972); Gosschalk v. Gosschalk, 48 N.J. Super. 566, 138 A.2d774, aff'd, 28 N.J. 73, 145 A.2d 327 (1958). The Court of Appeals of Maryland, as mentioned above, has also held that a floating intent to return to a former domicile at some future date does not negative the intent to establish a new domicile. Shenton v. Abbott, supra, at 533, 15 A.2d 906.

The Restatement (Second) of Conflicts recognizes in §17, Comment g, that a refugee may acquire a domicile of choice even if he is present in this country on a temporary visa:

"Even in the latter situation, [refugee present on a temporary visa] it is possible for a refugee to acquire a domicile of choice in his asylum, although the presumably temporary nature of his stay may cast some doubt upon whether he has formed the requisite attitude of mind toward it . . " (Citations omitted). (Id., at 69).

The Restatement also states with respect to domiciliary intent that:

"[I]f [one] does not intend to move at a definite time, it is easier to find that he has this attitude of mind than if he intends to move at a definite time.

<sup>12</sup> Under 8 U.S.C. § 1251(a)(9) an alien is subject to deportation who— "(9) was admitted as a nonimmigrant and failed to maintain the nonimmigrant status in which he was admitted or to which it was changed . . ., or to comply with the conditions of any such status."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The domicile rule in the District of Columbia as quoted by the court in *Alves* is substantially similar to the Maryland rule:

<sup>&</sup>quot;... physical presence with an intent to abandon the former domicile and to remain in the District of Columbia for an indefinite period of time." (Alves, supra, at 114).

It is possible, however, for a person to have the proper attitude of mind even though he does intend to move at a definite time; although the more distant that time is, the easier it is to find the requirement satisfied." (*Id.*, at 71).

The rule expressed in Alves and in the Restatement, as applied to a G-4 alien, who presently intends to remain in Maryland indefinitely but who may have to return to his native country at the conclusion of his employment, makes it clear that such a G-4 alien is not legally incapable of establishing a Maryland domicile. Furthermore, as noted supra, there is nothing in the statutory definition in 8 U.S.C. § 1101 of a G-4 alien, as opposed to certain other types of nonimmigrant aliens, which indicates that Congress sought to negate a domiciliary intent on the part of a G-4 alien.

In summary, under Maryland law the plaintiffs' fathers must be able to demonstrate physical presence in Maryland, an intent to remain here indefinitely and the legal capability to do so. The federal immigration laws do not render the plaintiffs' fathers legally incapable of demonstrating and being able to carry out a present intention to remain in Maryland indefinitely. Plaintiffs' fathers' G-4 status, in fact, gives them that precise status, residents of Maryland for an indefinite period of time. This legal capacity coupled with physical presence and sufficient evidence of the requisite intent is all that the law of Maryland requires to establish domicile.

Defendants place principal reliance on Revenue Ruling 74-364 and Seren v. Douglas, 30 Colo. App. 110, 489 P.2d 601 (1971).

The Revenue Ruling squarely holds that a G-4 alien is under a legal disability which renders him incapable of forming the intention necessary to establish a domicile in the United States. That holding is based on the fact that a G-4 alien is required to depart at the expiration of the period of his admission. However, as demonstrated above, under federal law a G-4 alien is capable of

remaining in Maryland indefinitely and, therefore, has the legal capacity to have the necessary intent to establish a Maryland domicile while physically present in Maryland. As an explication of the *law of domicile*, this court believes the Revenue Ruling is in error.

Revenue Ruling 74-364 relies as do the defendants, on Seren v. Dougias, supra. In that case, Seren, a student, entered the United States in 1967 on a student visa which expired in April, 1968. In July of 1968, after Seren had married a University of Colorado coed, a petition for an immigrant visa was granted which entitled him to apply for status as a permanent resident alien. On January 20, 1970, the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service granted Seren the status of "lawful permanent resident." The University of Colorado contended that Seren, who had been a nonstudent resident of Colorado between April, 1968, and January, 1970, was under a legal disability prior to January 20, 1970, to formulate the requisite intent to become domiciled in Colorado. The University based its contention on the fact that Seren had entered the United States on a student visa and was a nonimmigrant alien classified under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(F)(i) as an alien with "a residence in a foreign country which he has no intention of abandoning . . . who seeks to enter the United States temporarily and solely for the purpose of pursuing . . . a course of study . . .. " With respect to this argument, the court held:

"We agree that the federal statutes in question did create a legal disability which would render Seren incapable of forming the intent required by state statute so long as he, in compliance with federal law, was here on a legal basis which bound him to not abandon his homeland. However, that disability could, as a matter of fact and law, have dissolved upon the expiration of his student visa. At such time he could abandon his legal intent to return to his homeland and seek status as a permanent resident of the United States." (Emphasis added).

A G-4 alien is not bound by federal law "to not abandon his homeland" and could at any time "abandon his legal intent to return to his homeland and seek status as a permanent resident of the United States." Therefore, the very language of the Seren court warrants a holding that a G-4 alien is not under a legal disability to establish a Maryland domicile. The Seren court also held that the dissolution of Seren's legal disability was not contingent on his being granted lawful permanent resident status on January 20, 1970, but that the disability dissolved prior to that date.

In Re Gaffney's Estate, 141 Misc. 453, 252 N.Y.S. 649 (1931), also relied on by the defendants, is distinguishable on at least two grounds. That case dealt with whether Patrick Cassidy, who had "arrived in this country only recently" (id., at 652) as a temporary visitor for 3 months only, could qualify under New York law to be appointed as administrator of his brother's estate. New York law rendered incompetent one who was an "alien not an inhabitant of this state." In finding that Cassidy was not competent, the court relied on the fact that Cassidy was present only for 3 months on a visitor's visa and would have to leave the country at the end of that time. As distinguished from Cassidy's situation, the holder of a G-4 visa is not under similar constraints. In noting that, "[Allienage alone does not disqualify an administrator, but there must be adequate proof of his being an inhabitant" (citation omitted) (id., at 653), the Gaffney's Estate court highlighted the second ground upon which that case is distinguishable from this one. Far from deciding that a nonimmigrant alien could never establish a domicile in the United States, the court there decided only that Mr. Cassidy did not establish by competent evidence that he was an "inhabitant" of New York.

[10, 11] The presumption utilized by the University of Maryland in enforcing its "In-State Policy" is that no class of nonimmigrant aliens can establish a Maryland domicile. As such, it is an irrebuttable presumption

which is not universally true since G-4 aliens are not legally incapable of establishing Maryland domicile. That the University has "reasonable alternative means of making the crucial determination" of a non-immigrant alien's domicile, Vlandis v. Kline, supra 412 U.S. at 452, 93 S. Ct. at 2236, is demonstrated by the fact that it makes just such a determination on a case-by-case basis with regard to other students seeking to pay domiciliary tuition rates under its "In-State Policy." The irrebuttable presumption relating to nonimmigrant aliens encompassed by the University's "In-State Policy" therefore is an invalid measure of domicile. 14

If the University were to seek to justify its treatment of nonimmigrant aliens on the theory of cost equalization, this argument must fail because basing a conclusive presumption of non-domicile on nonimmigrant status would be as stated in Vlandis "wholly unrelated to that objective." (Id., at 441, 93 S. Ct. 2230). Nonimmigrant aliens, even those such as plaintiffs' fathers whose salaries are exempt from state income tax, who have resided in Maryland for 10 or 15 years, as have plaintiffs' fathers, might well have contributed far more financial support to the University of Maryland through payment of real property, sales and other taxes than would have a student, financially independent for at least 12 months, who maintained a domicile in Maryland for 6 months prior to his class registration. Yet such a student, who conceivably could have contributed almost nothing to the Maryland tax base, is allowed to prove Maryland domicile under the "In-State Policy." Nor can the University's policy be justified on the ground of administrative certainty or administrative convenience. Vlandis v. Kline, supra, at 441, 93 S.

The fact that Congress, empowered by the Constitution and statute to distinguish between citizens and aliens, may legitimately draw lines to establish qualification requirements, under which certain aliens will be eligible for federally funded programs and others will not, does not necessarily raise parallel powers in the States. See Mathews v. Diaz, 426 U.S. 67, 81, 96 S. Ct. 1883, 48 L. Ed. 2d 478 (1976).

Ct. 2230; Stanley v. Illinois, supra, 405 U.S. 656, 92 S.
Ct. 1208. Cf. City of Charlotte v. Local 660, etc., 426 U.S.
283, 96 S. Ct. 2036, 48 L. Ed. 2d 636 (1976).

Since the "In-State Policy" of the University of Maryland, as applied to G-4 aliens, creates a constitutionally impermissible irrebuttable presumption, it is not necessary to reach the issues raised by plaintiffs' equal protection and supremacy clause claims.

#### D. Relief

Declaratory relief and an injunction prohibiting the University of Maryland from denying to the plaintiffs in-state status solely because they or their parents are holders of a visa under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(G)(iv) must be granted in this motion for summary judgment. However, in addition plaintiffs also request this court (1) to enjoin the defendants from failing to

classify them as in-state students, (2) to certify this suit as a class action, (3) to frame appropriate relief for the class so certified, and (4) to award plaintiffs costs and attorneys' fees.

In order for plaintiffs to prevail on this motion for summary judgment in their request that they be classified as in-state students, the court must find that there is no dispute concerning the facts material to a determination that each of the fathers of the plaintiffs, on whom each plaintiff is dependent, is domiciled in Maryland.

[12] The law in this Circuit governing summary judgment is very strict. In order for summary judgment to be granted there can be no dispute as to any material fact or as to any controlling inference to be drawn from material facts. American Fidelity and Casualty Co. v. London and Edinburgh Insurance Co., 354 F.2d 214, 216 (4th Cir. 1965). The burden is on the plaintiffs to establish that there are no such disputes, and any doubt as to the existence of a disputed material fact or inference drawn therefrom must be resolved against the plaintiffs. Phoenix Savings and Loan, Inc. v. Aetna Casualty & Surety Co., 381 F.2d 245, 249 (4th Cir. 1967).

Plaintiffs, in attempting to establish that the undisputed facts warrant a holding that their fathers are domiciled in Maryland, rely on their Verified Complaint and the exhibits attached thereto and on the affidavits filed as part of their motion for summary judgment.

[13, 14] Plaintiffs' reliance on the Verified Complaint filed in this case is misplaced. Since the relevant domicile for tuition purposes under the valid portion of the University's "In-State Policy" is the domicile of plaintiffs' fathers, any verification of facts alleged in the complaint by the plaintiffs themselves is of little evidentiary value on the crucial question of the present intent of each father to remain permanently or indefinitely in Maryland. Counsel for the plaintiffs have not filed any affidavits of plaintiffs' fathers in this case which contain relevant evidence of this intent. The

<sup>15</sup> Neither declaratory nor injunctive relief with respect to plaintiffs' fathers' tax-exempt status is warranted. Because the University of Maryland automatically determined that the plaintiffs' fathers', as G-4 aliens, were not Maryland domiciliaries, the University never meaningfully applied domiciliary criteria, see supra, to the plaintiffs. One of these criteria is whether or not the person whose domicile is being determined pays Maryland income tax on all earned income. The record does not establish that the University would universally deny "in-state" status to students solely on this ground. In fact, the defendants have admitted that a parent holding an immigrant visa could establish Maryland domicile regardless of a Maryland income tax exemption, if that parent could demonstrate the other relevant domiciliary criteria. (Defendants' answers to plaintiffs' requests for admissions, Paper No. 7, 10). This issue is not ripe for resolution in this case. Since the University of Maryland will be required, henceforth, to review G-4 aliens in the same manner as citizens and immigrant aliens, the court will presume that all of these individuals will be given the same kind of review. The court will also presume that, consistent with the University's admission, it will not preclude any student from establishing that he or she is a domiciliary of Maryland solely because of that student's parent's Maryland tax-exempt status under an international agreement. If the University were to act contrarily, serious constitutional questions would arise.

complaint itself is only verified by the plaintiffs with respect to the allegations that pertain to them (Paper No. 1). In addition, the verifications are only on "information and belief." While it is true that sworn and notarized pleadings may sometimes be considered the equivalent of affidavits in summary judgments proceedings, Fletcher v. Norfolk Newspapers, Inc., 239 F.2d 169 (4th Cir. 1956); Dabney v. Cunningham, 317 F. Supp. 57 (E.D. Va. 1970), the verified pleadings in those cases contain only facts about which the pleader had personal knowledge and which concerned him directly. In order for a verified complaint to substitute for an affidavit, it must meet the standards of F. R. Civ. P. 56(e), that is it must be made "on personal knowledge. . . . set forth such facts as would be admissible in evidence, and . . . show affirmatively that the affiant is competent to testify to the matters therein." Runnels v. Rosendale, 499 F.2d 733 (9th Cir. 1974); Fowler v. Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Co., 343 F.2d 150 (5th Cir. 1965); Avery v. Norfolk & Western Railway Co., 52 F.R.D. 356 (N.D. Ohio 1971); 6 J. Moore, Federal Practice, ¶ 56.11[3], pp. 56-249-251 and ¶ 56.22[1], pp. 56-1303-1311 (1976). [Hereinafter, Moore]. The Verified Complaint in this case does not meet this standard and is inadequate to support plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment.

The fact that defendants filed no opposing affidavits setting out contradictory facts and merely relied on denials in their Answer (Paper No. 3, ¶¶ 16, 18, and 21) concerning facts relevant to plaintiffs' fathers' domicile is not significant in this case. Such denials would have been insufficient under F. R. Civ. P. 56(e) if the plaintiffs had met their burden of establishing that the relevant facts were not in dispute and that they were entitled to judgment as a matter of law. However, if a party moving for summary judgment fails to meet his burden, it is not incumbent upon the opposing party to do anything. Adickes v. Kress & Co., 398 U.S. 144, 159-161, 90 S. Ct. 1598, 26 L. Ed. 2d 142 (1970); F. R. Civ. P. 56(c); 6 Moore, ¶ 56.11[3] p. 56-252, ¶ 56.23, p. 56-1390.

[15-17] Of course, under F. R. Civ. P. 56(c) plaintiffs may rely solely on the pleadings and do not have to file any supporting data if they choose not to do so. A motion made by a claimant on the basis of the complaint and answer is functionally equivalent to a motion for judgment on the pleadings under Rule 12(c). Schwartz v. Compagnie General Transatlantique, 405 F.2d 270 (2d Cir. 1968); 6 Moore, ¶56.02[3], p. 56-29; ¶ 56.09; ¶ 56.11[1-1]; ¶56.11[2], p. 56-210. However, because of defendants' Answer has raised an issue of material fact with respect to the allegations in the Verified Complaint concerning plaintiffs' fathers' domiciles (Paper No. 3, ¶¶ 16, 18, and 21), plaintiffs may not prevail on this ground either. Id.: 2A Moore, ¶ 12.15. Since there is nothing in the entire record with respect to the fathers of plaintiffs Hogg and Moreno on which plaintiffs can rely in meeting their burden under Rule 56 on this factual question, this court cannot now enjoin the defendant from failing to classify students Hogg and Moreno as in-state students on the basis of the current record.

With respect to the father of plaintiff Otero, the record does contain some material filed as exhibits to the Verified Complaint which is entitled to consideration on this issue. In the process of attempting to convince the University of Maryland that plaintiff Otero was domiciled in Maryland, Rene Otero, plaintiff's father, partially completed under oath the University of Maryland form entitled "Petition for In-State Classification for Admission, Tuition and Charge-Differential Purposes." This form requires that the parent upon whom the student's domicile depends fill out sections II and IV of the form.

In section II Rene Otero has stated that he occupies real property in Maryland as his domicile on a year-round basis; that he has resided in Chevy Chase, Maryland since March 1, 1965; that all or substantially all of his possessions are in the State of Maryland; that Mrs. Otero is registered to vote in Maryland; that he has a Maryland driver's license and that his car is registered in Maryland. Rene Otero has also filed copies, certified by him to be true copies and sworn to before a notary, of his wife's

Maryland driver's license, his driver's license, his Maryland automobile registration for 3 automobiles, and his son's W-2 forms and Maryland Income Tax form, all listing Chevy Chase as their address. It is also undisputed from the record that Rene Otero is a G-4 alien employed with Inter-American Development Bank; that Mrs. Otero is an American citizen; that Rene Otero has not made any attempt to adjust his status from G-4 to resident alien; and that his current employer has a policy which would prevent him from making that adjustment while he is so employed. While all of these facts are material in the determination of Mr. Otero's domicile, the record is still deficient in evidence concerning his domiciliary intent. This crucial factor of intent is one which is particularly difficult to resolve on the basis of a bare written record and summary judgment can seldom be granted in cases where intent is in issue. Denny v. Seaboard Lacquer, Inc., 487 F.2d 485 (4th Cir. 1973); Conrad v. Delta Air Lines. Inc., 494 F.2d 914 (7th Cir. 1974): See Poller v. Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc., 368 U.S. 464, 473, 82 S. Ct. 486, 7 L. Ed. 2d 458 (1962). Therefore, even though the court has before it some evidence of Mr. Otero's domicile, summary judgment cannot be entered in favor of plaintiff Juan Pablo Otero.

#### E. Class Action

[18] Plaintiffs seek to maintain this suit as a class action under F. R. Civ. P. 23 (b)(2) which applies to suits in which:

"(2) the party opposing the class has acted or refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the class, thereby making appropriate final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief with respect to the class as a whole."

It is clear that the University's actions with respect to classifying G-4 aliens or their dependents as out-of-state students have been taken in accordance with official University policy and thus "on grounds generally applicable to the class." This case is then appropriately brought under 23(b)(2), assuming plaintiffs meet the

additional burdens imposed upon them to establish that this suit should proceed as a class action.

F.R. Civ. P. 23(a) provides 4 additional prerequisites for the maintenance of a class action. A class action may be maintained under Rule 23 only if:

"(1) the class is so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable, (2) there are questions of law or fact common to the class, (3) the claims or defenses of the representative parties are typical of the claims or defenses of the class, and (4) the representative parties will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the class."

The burden is on the plaintiffs to meet these and all of the requirements for the maintenance of a class action. Carracter v. Morgan, 491 F.2d 458 (4th Cir. 1973); Poindexter v. Teubert, 462 F.2d 1096 (4th Cir. 1972); McAdory v. Scientific Research Instruments, Inc., 355 F. Supp. 468 (D. Md. 1973). In order to determine if plaintiffs have met their burden, the appropriate class which plaintiffs may represent must be determined.

Plaintiffs seek to represent a class consisting of all persons residing in Maryland who now attend or may in the future wish to attend the University of Maryland and who:

- (a) hold or are named within a visa under 8 U.S.C. §1101(a)(15)-(G)(iv) or are financially dependent upon another person holding or named within such visa; or
- (b) pay no Maryland State income tax on a salary or wages from an international organization under the provisions of an international agreement to which the United States is a party or are financially dependent upon another person who does not pay such tax on such salary or wages for such reasons.

Plaintiffs seek declaratory and injunctive relief on behalf of the members of the class.

The thrust of the class aspects of plaintiffs' suit is to force the University to provide an opportunity for

prospective class members to demonstrate Maryland domicile. The court believes that the class which the plaintiffs seek to represent is too broad and must be limited to individuals satisfying criteria (a) above, residing in Maryland, who are current students at the University of Maryland, or who chose not to apply to the University of Maryland because of the challenged policies but would now be interested in attending if given an opportunity to establish "in-state" status, or who are currently students in senior high schools in Maryland. It is these individuals against whom defendants' policies have already operated or would operate in the near future if they were to continue in effect.

Defendants' proposed limitation of the class to those students, either G-4's or their dependents, who have previously attempted to demonstrate Maryland domicile is too narrow. Cf. Player v. State of Alabama, Dept. of Pensions and Security, 400 F. Supp. 249, 253, 259 (M.D. Ala. 1975). Under the University's policy such an attempt would have been futile. Individuals who have been or will soon be discouraged from applying to the University of Maryland because of the University's policies regarding G-4 aliens are appropriate class members. Cypress v. Newport News General and Nonsectarian Hospital Ass'n, 375 F.2d 648, 653 (4th Cir. 1967); Long v. Sapp, 502 F.2d 34, 43 (5th Cir. 1974); Wetzel v. Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., 508 F.2d 239, 254 (3rd Cir. 1975), cert. denied 421 U.S. 1011, 95 S. Ct. 2415, 44 L. Ed. 2d 679 (1976); cf. Green v. Cauthen, 379 F. Supp. 361, 371-2 (D.S.C. 1974).

The court finds no merit in defendants' preliminary argument that plaintiffs have abandoned the class action aspects of this suit. Plaintiffs' motion for class certification, filed on November 18, 1975, in a suit instituted on May 27, 1975, and before any hearings on the merits, was timely and allows the court to determine if class certification is appropriate within the "practicable" time limits of Rule 23(c)(1).

Since elsewhere in this opinion the court has already determined that plaintiffs do have standing to sue on their own behalf, defendants' objection to a class action suit on that ground must also fail. Defendants have not disputed, nor could they, that there are "questions of law ... common to the class" as required by Rule 23(a)(2) since injunctive and declaratory relief for all the class members depends on the resolution of the same question of law, the legality of the University of Maryland's policy prohibiting G-4 aliens an opportunity to show that they are domiciled in Maryland. For the same reason. plaintiffs have also met the "typical claims" requirement of Rule 23(a)(3). Defendants have not attempted to argue to the contrary on this question. Finally, since plaintiffs' able and diligent counsel have adequately and fairly represented the interest of the class heretofore described and since the plaintiffs do not have interests antagonistic to those of the class, Rule 23(a)(4) has been satisfied. Oxendine v. Williams, 509 F.2d 1405 (4th Cir. 1975); Wetzel v. Liberty Mutual Insurance Co., supra; American Finance System, Inc. v. Harlow, 65 F.R.D. 94 (D. Md. 1974).

Defendants' major argument in opposition to class certification is that plaintiffs have not satisfied the "numerosity" requirement of Rule 23(a)(1) which requires the plaintiffs to demonstrate that joinder of all members is impracticable. This rule requires plaintiffs to make a positive showing that joinder is impracticable. Tolbert v. Western Electric Co., 56 F.R.D. 108, 113 (N.D. Ga. 1972). Neither bare allegations of numerosity nor speculation as to the number of parties will suffice. Kinsey v. Legg. Mason & Co., Inc., 60 F.R.D. 91 (D.D.C. 1973); Tuma v. American Can Co., 367 F. Supp. 1178 (D. N.J. 1973). However, a plaintiff need not establish a class size with precision; it is sufficient if he presents some information from which the number of class members can be approximated. Sims v. Parke Davis & Co., 334 F. Supp. 774 (D. Mich. 1971), cert. denied 405 U.S. 978, 92 S. Ct. 1196, 31 L. Ed. 2d 254 (1972). In this regard, the Advisory

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Committee on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure noted in discussing Rule 23(b)(2):

"... Action or inaction is directed to a class within the meaning of this subdivision even if it has taken effect or is threatened only as to one or a few members of the class, provided it is based on grounds which have general application to the class.

"Illustrative are various actions in the civil-rights field where a party is charged with discriminating unlawfully against a class, usually one whose numbers are incapable of specific enumeration . . ." (citations omitted). 39 F.R.D. 73, 102.

Plaintiffs have submitted the affidavits of Arnold Weiss and John D. North (attachments to Paper No. 16) in support of their motion for class certification. Mr. Weiss's affidavit indicates that as of May, 1975, there were "157 children between the ages of 16-25 holding G-4 visas and dependent on and living in homes of Bank employees living in Maryland." Mr. North indicates that, based on a random sample at the end of 1975 of 15% of the World Bank's employees, just under 1,000 employees holding G-4 visas reside in Marylar 1. Mr. North, based on hard 1973 data, and ratios based on the 1975 sample, states that "there are today (Jan. 8, 1976), very approximately, nearly 500 dependent children, about one-third of them of the age of 15 or over, living in the homes of World Bank employees who hold G-4 visas and who reside in the State of Maryland." These data are as specific as are required, given the fact that this is a Rule 23(b)(2) class action suit and that plaintiffs have demonstrated the unconstitutionality of the University of Maryland's policies in question here. The court finds that plaintiffs have met the burden imposed on them by Rule 23(a)(1) to demonstrate that the class described supra is so numerous that joinder of all members would be impracticable. Therefore the court will grant plaintiffs' motion for class certification for a class to be defined as follows:

All persons now residing in Maryland who are current students at the University of Maryland, or who chose not to apply to the University of Maryland because of the challenged policies but would now be interested in attending if given an opportunity to establish in-state status, or who are currently students in senior high schools in Maryland, and who

(a) hold or are named within a visa under 8 U.S.C. §1101(a)(15)(G)(iv) or are financially dependent upon a person holding or named within such a visa.

Declaratory relief is granted to the members of this class and defendants are enjoined from denying to the members of this class in-state status solely because they or their parents are holders of a visa under 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(G)(iv).

Since the issue of the domicile of the fathers of the three named plaintiffs remains to be resolved, the court will not decide at this time the question of court costs and attorneys' fees.

Therefore, it is this 13th day of July, 1976, OR-DERED:

- (1) That defendant University of Maryland's motion for summary judgment is GRANTED and the University of Maryland is dismissed as a defendant in this case;
- (2) That defendant Dr. Wilson H. Elkins' motion for summary judgment is DENIED.
- (3) That plaintiffs' motion for class action determination is GRANTED and that the class is certified as described in the foregoing opinion;
- (4) That plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment is partially GRANTED and partially DENIED;
- (5) That the "In-State Policy" of the University of Maryland which denies to G-4 aliens by the use of an irrebuttable presumption of non-domicile the opportunity to establish "in-state" status is unconstitutional as it is in violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment; and

(6) That defendant Dr. Wilson H. Elkins is hereby enjoined from enforcing the University of Maryland's "In-State Policy" with respect to the named plaintiffs and the members of their class by denying them the opportunity to demonstrate that they or any of them are entitled to "in-state" status for purposes of tuition and charge differential determinations.

> In The United States District Court for The District Of Maryland

> > Civil Action No. M-76-691

Juan Carlos Moreno, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

U

University of Maryland and Dr. Wilson H. Elkins, President, University of Maryland,

Defendants.

#### ORDER

(Filed August 3, 1976)

The Court having read and considered the Motion to Stay Order Pending Appeal and Memorandum in Support thereof, filed on behalf of Defendant Elkins on July 31, 1976;

And the Court having heard oral argument of counsel for the respective parties in open court on August 2, 1976, at which time it was represented by counsel for Defendant Elkins that were a stay granted (1) the University of Maryland, for the fall 1976 semester and any other semester that commences before the appellate process is concluded, as to each student whose status is currently determined by a G-4 visa and whose request for reclassification, if filed prior to the last day available for registration for the fall 1976 semester.

would have been granted but for the stay, would refund the difference in tuition and other charges between the "out-of-state" charges assessed and actually paid and the "in-state" charges that would have been assessed, in the event the Court's Order of July 13, 1976, were finally affirmed on appeal, and (2) the University of Maryland would publicize in some reasonable manner the condition that in order to be eligible to be considered for the refund described above, each student whose status is currently determined by a G-4 visa would be required to file with the University of Maryland a request for reclassification to "in-state" status prior to the last day available for registration for the fall 1976 semester:

And the Court having determined from the foregoing pleadings and arguments that the prerequisites for the granting of a stay pending appeal, stated in *Long v. Robinson*, 432 F.2d 977 (4th Cir. 1970), have been satisfied;

IT IS, this 3rd day of August, 1976, by the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, for the reasons more fully set forth in open court,

ORDERED, That the Motion to Stay Order Pending Appeal be granted as prayed and that the effectiveness of paragraphs (5) and (6) of the Court's Order contained in its Opinion and Order filed July 13, 1976, be, and the same hereby is, STAYED.

s/ James R. Miller, Jr., United States District Judge.

#### United States Court of Appeals for The Fourth Circuit

No. 76-2049

Juan Carlos Moreno, Juan Pablo Otero, and Clare B. Hogg,

Appellees,

U.

Wilson H. Elkins, President, University of Maryland,

Appellant,

and

University of Maryland,

Defendant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, at Baltimore. James R. Miller, Jr., District Judge.

Heard: April 4, 1977 Decided: April 28, 1977.

Before WINTER, BUTZNER, and HALL, Circuit Judges.

Jack T. Roach and Robert A. Zarnoch, Assistant Attorneys General of Maryland (Francis B. Burch, Attorney General of Maryland, David Feldman, Assistant Attorney General of Maryland on brief) for appellant; Alfred L. Scanlan (R. James Woolsey, John D. Aldock and Shea and Gardner on brief) for appellees.

PER CURIAM:

The University of Maryland appeals the district court's ruling that, for purposes of determining admission, tuition rates, and charge differentials, students may not be denied "in state" status solely because they hold G-4 visas. For the reasons lucidly stated by the district court, we affirm that court's judgment. See Moreno v. University of Maryland, 420 F. Supp. 541 (D. Md. 1976).

Affirmed.

United States Court of Appeals for The Fourth Circuit

No. 76-2049

Wilson H. Elkins, President, University of Maryland,

Appellant,

1)

Juan Carlos Moreno, et al.

Appellees.

ORDER (Filed May 23, 1977)

Upon consideration of the appellant's petition for rehearing and suggestion for rehearing en banc, and no judge having requested a poll on the suggestion for rehearing en banc,

It is, therefore, ORDERED, That the petition for rehearing be and it is hereby denied.

Entered at the direction of Judge Butzner for a panel consisting of Judge Winter, Judge Butzner and Judge Hall.

For the Court,
/s/ WILLIAM K. SLATE, II,
Clerk.

United States Court of Appeals for The Fourth Circuit

No. 76-2049

Juan Carlos Moreno, Juan Pablo Otero and Clare B. Hogg,

Appellees,

U.

Wilson H. Elkins, President, University of Maryland,

Appellant,

and

University of Maryland,

Defendant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, at Baltimore. James R. Miller, Jr., District Judge.

(Filed May 26, 1977)

Upon consideration of the appellant's motion for stay of mandate,

IT IS ACCORDINGLY ADJUDGED AND ORDERED that the mandate is stayed for a period of thirty (30) days unless the period is extended for cause shown on the same

terms as the district court originally granted its stay namely that should the appellant's petition for writ of certiorari prove unsuccessful, then those members of appellees' class who filed timely requests for reclassification to "in-state" status would receive a refund of excess fees paid during the pendency of the stay.

Entered for the panel consisting of Judges Winter, Butzner and Hall by direction.

For the Court.

WILLIAM K. SLATE II, Clerk.

A True Copy, Test: William K. Slate, II, Clerk, By Marilyn J. Kocen, Deputy Clerk.